

47
37
50

SELECTIONS
FROM
THE RECORDS
OF
THE BENGAL GOVERNMENT.

280 Published by Authority.

Nº. XX.

Papers

RELATING TO THE

SOUTH-WEST FRONTIER,

COMPRISING

Reports

ON

PURULIA OR MANBHOOM,
CHOTA NAGPORE,
SUB-DIVISION OF KORNDIA,
HAZAREEBAUGH,
SUMBHULPORE,

AND

SOUTH-WEST FRONTIER AGENCY.

BY

H. RICKETTS, Esq., C.S.,
Member of the Board of Revenue.

Calcutta:

THOS. JONES, CALCUTTA GAZETTE OFFICE.

1855.

MS. 81

MS. 81



INDEX.

	<i>Para.</i>	<i>Page.</i>
General,	1—16	1
Land Revenue—Attachment of landed property under decrees of Court,	17—36	4
Abkarree Revenue,	37—41	9
Civil Justice,	42—78	10
Criminal Justice,	79—86	19
Police,	87—103	20
Jail, &c.,	104—113	24
Cutcherry House and Thannah,	114—115	26
Roads,	116—122	26
Salt,	123—124	28
School,	125—135	29

MEMORANDUM
OF
RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT.

PARA. 10. That the Principal Assistant should be directed to effect an arrangement with the Rajah of Pachete for planting some large groves of trees in the neighbourhood of Purulia, the country being now quite bare.

13 and 14. That the Principal Assistant be directed to ascertain on what terms thirty or forty families of experienced weavers from Ruggonathpore and the neighbourhood would consent to go to Chyebassa, and that if they will move on reasonable terms, small grants of land should be made to them to induce them to settle there.

15. That the local authorities should be directed to show, why the spirit of the Law should not be acted upon in Pachete, and putnee tenures sold for arrears of revenue.

26. That the list of attached estates be carefully revised, with a view to the sale of such estates, as in conformity with the Orders dated the 17th July 1851, ought to be sold, if the sums decreed against the owners be not liquidated.

27. That when an attachment is continued, the proceeds of the estate should be carefully tested by a trustworthy Officer, and instead of 16 per cent. on the rental being allowed the insolvent owner, that he should receive no more than will keep him and his family from actual want.

30. That a Principal Assistant should never admit a suit for the summary adjustment of accounts, between a land-owner and a money-lender, without the express orders of the Agent, on a Report submitted by the Assistant in each case.

34. That most of the summary suits instituted should be made over to the Deputy Collector, Kaleedoss Paulit.

35. That assistance having been afforded as above recommended, registers of the records should be prepared as directed by the Sudder Board of Revenue.

41. That Kaleedoss Paulit, late Abkarree Superintendent, now Deputy Collector, be allowed to remain attached to the Purulia Division, and also have charge of the Abkarree of Hazareebagh, and eventually, when he shall have placed the Department in that Division on a satisfactory footing, of Lohardugga.

46. Repeats the recommendation that the establishment allowance of all Native Judges be increased.

49. That all original suits and Moonsiffs' appeals, except such as for particular reasons the Principal Assistant may desire to keep on his own file, be sent to the Principal Sudder Ameen.

50. That the Principal Assistant should be prohibited from disposing of Civil suits in Camp.

51. That all Miscellaneous Suits, connected with the execution of decrees, should be sent to the Principal Sudder Ameen.

52. That summary appeals from the orders of the Principal Sudder Ameen be heard by the Court vested with authority to hear the regular appeals.

53. That Vakeels should be nominated for the Court of the Principal Sudder Ameen, as in the Regulation Provinces.

55. That the Agent, Deputy Commissioner, and Principal Assistant at Chota Nagpore be directed to draw up some simple Rules of Procedure, for the guidance of the Civil Courts of the Agency.

57. That all the local Rules and General Orders, prescribed by the Agent, be collected, revised, and submitted for the sanction of the Government.

59. That the Agent should submit monthly to the Government a separate precis of the Orders issued by him, sanctioning proceedings opposed to the spirit of the Laws.

68. That in all cases of general application, not of immediate urgency, the Agent should report to the Government, before sanctioning any custom not in conformity with the spirit of the Laws.

71. That appeals from the decision of the Principal Sudder Ameen should be heard by the Deputy Commissioner rather than by the Principal Assistant, and that the system be sanctioned by the Government under the provisions of Act XIII. of 1833.

77. That a third Writer be allowed in the Assistant's Office on a salary of Rupees 20, and that opportunity offering the salary of the second Writer be reduced from Rupees 40 to 30.

78. That the Burkundazes and Chupprassees be reduced as recommended by the Agent, and two Kalassees allowed.

84. That all trifling Criminal cases be systematically made over to the Principal Sudder Ameen.

86. That the Moonsiffs should be made use of in all departments.

102. That the special attention of the Principal Assistant should be directed to the Police of his District, and that he should be directed in the ensuing cold season to visit the worst of his Thannahs with a view to the revision of the Mofussil Police establishment.

103. That the Principal Assistant should be called upon for a special Report on the Police of Soopoor, with a view of taking it out of the hands of the Zemindar.

104 to 109. That various alterations and improvements should be made in the Jail.

113. That the prisoners should be allowed Kajur mats twice a year.

114. That the Cutcherry House should be improved.

115. That the Thannah should be improved.

116 and 117. That raised roads never should be made unless the expense of complete bridging can be allowed.

122. That 520 miles of fair-weather roads be opened at an expense of about Rupees 10,500 and repaired yearly at an expense of Rupees 5,250.

224. That secret enquiries be made at Ghuttal, Ramchunderpore, Bishenpore, and Munglepore, regarding the supply and price of Salt at those places, with a view to the prevention of smuggling.

131. That a Bengalee Teacher be appointed to the English School, and boys admitted to learn Bengalee only, paying four annas per month.

132. That the Government wards be brought into Purulia and placed at the Government School.

134. That Rupees 250 be given by Government towards the completion of the School-house.

(Signed) HENRY RICKETTS.

PURULIA OR MANBHOOM.

GENERAL.

PREVIOUS to 1833, this District was under the Regulations and formed part of the Jungle Mehals. After the enactment of Regulation XIII. of that year, it was placed under the Governor General's Agent in the South-Western Frontier. The whole was included in the Perpetual Settlement. It must be admitted, that a settlement in perpetuity was a short-sighted measure as regards these jungle districts. In reporting on Chyebassa, I have mentioned Pergunnah Dhulbhoom with its 900 square miles of country and 58,232 inhabitants, assessed in perpetuity at Rupees 4,266-10-8. In this District we find 31 Zemindaries, embracing 7,896 square miles of country, containing a population of 7,72,340 souls, assessed in perpetuity at Rupees 91,789-6-4!

2. The owners of these large estates are, for the most part, uneducated. The Rajah of Pachete, whose estate pays more than half the revenue of the whole District, and the Zemindars of Chatna and Patcomb, know a little of the Bengalee and Oordoo languages, but the remainder, the Principal Assistant reports, are as ignorant as their grand-fathers were—they know nothing.

3. There are no European Zemindars. Dr. Cheek, of Bancoorah, has in different places sixteen small indigo factories, and Messrs. Watson and Co. have two, but their business is conducted by means of advances to the ryots: they hold no farms.

4. The Principal Assistant says, that “the establishment of the headquarters of the District Authorities at Purulia, in the centre of the jungles, has removed all the apprehensions of the people of the adjoining districts, and has induced them to come in with the products of their labour, and make exchange with, and purchase those of Manbhoom.”

5. It is to me most astonishing, that years ago, roads, such as I have now proposed should be cleared, were not opened in these districts. The zemindars of such countries are always opposed to these operations; they like to be surrounded with forests and to live segregated, seeing no one but their slavish followers and their wives; and I grieve to say, that even

with the more civilized, increased facilities for the progress of European travellers, and the passage of troops, are by no means regarded as advantageous; on the contrary, an estate, with a road, though it be frequented by travellers, will generally be valued 25 per cent. less than it would be if not burthened with the responsibilities attending the highway.

6. Captain Oakes reports, that the products of the district are sugar, wax, honey, safflower, tusser, sesame, bamboo-manna, oil-seeds, lac, timber, ebony, tanning materials, India-corn and millet, but I imagine, that, with the exception of tusser, lac and oil-seeds, the quantity of each article produced is small: tusser, lac and oil-seeds are exported in considerable quantities.

7. To the above list may be added gold-dust, iron, stone for building, stone dishes, talc, crystal, copper and coal. There have not been any extensive speculations in any of the articles named but coal. The gold-dust is, procured by very poor persons, who wash the sands of the Subenreeka. The quantity obtained is so small, as not to be worth notice. The iron trade is said to be considerable, but no other than the simple, unscientific native process for excavating ore has yet been employed. The trade in stone dishes is considerable.

8. The coal dealings are now very extensive and are yearly increasing. The Principal Assistant estimates, that from the mines at Cheera-korec, Neeheebad, Chaneh and Burmoree, from 2 to 5,00,000 maunds are now annually sent to Calcutta. The terms of lease on which the land is held are perpetual at the option of the tenant.

9. The Surgeon represents, that the almost total absence of trees acts injuriously to the health of the inhabitants of Purulia, and that if some stringent means be not taken to prevent the people from cutting down the few remaining, in a short time a great part of the district will be uninhabitable. He states it to be a remarkable but undoubted fact, that only a few miles from the station, where there are extensive jungles, the rains commence nearly a month earlier than at the station of Purulia, and that it is at this season the inhabitants of Purulia constantly suffer greatly from cholera, while there is not a case in the jungly pergunnahs above alluded to.

10. It is certainly desirable, that any measure practicable should be taken for preserving the few remaining trees near Purulia, for there are very few of any size left within sight from the station. Only a few months ago, two fine trees, which were an ornament to the place, were

cut down and carried away for fire-wood. But it is too late for measures of preservation to do much—there are so few left to preserve. The Assistant should be instructed to enter into arrangements with the Rajah of Pachete, to whom all the land near Purulia belongs, for making some plantations of mangoe, mowa and other trees, which will flourish in poor soil. They should be planted in clumps of about 100, and a fence dug to keep out stray cattle. A party of prisoners might be constantly employed in making and preserving such plantations to much advantage.

11. In support of what is represented by the Surgeon, I can state, that three stages South of Purulia, I had the thermometer at sun-rise 34°, and two stages to the South 36°, while at Purulia, with the wind in the same quarter, the sky equally clear, and every reason why it should be equally cold, it was 47°.

12. The same great mistake has been committed at Chyebassa. Seventeen or eighteen years ago, the Coles sheltered by the jungle used to try to pick off the sepoys when they went to the river to drink; now all around is as bare as Purulia, but the soil not being quite as hard and arid, the want of trees is not so severely felt.

13. In reporting on Chyebassa, I mentioned that a considerable trade in tusser had sprung up at that place, and that some of the Coles had shown inclination to turn their attention to silk-worms, which I thought should be encouraged as much as possible. At present the cocoons collected in the neighbourhood of Chyebassa are sent at a great expense and loss from thence to Ruggonathpore, Soonamooke, &c. &c. It appears to me, that in many ways, there would be great gain, if we could persuade the Tantees to go to the cocoons, instead of all the cocoons being carried to the Tantees. There are hundreds of families of Tantees at Ruggonathpore, in the Purulia district. I think it would be good policy to endeavor, by grants of land, to induce thirty or forty families to settle at Chyebassa. They would soon be reconciled to remain there by the cheapness of the cocoons, and if successful in the first two or three years, might induce others to join them. I have said that the Coles, though they will not allow strangers to settle in their villages, admit Tantees once settled at Chyebassa. Doubtless some of the Tantees would in time go still nearer to the cocoons, and eventually may be, when many Coles shall live by the silk-worms, the existing jealousy respecting land may relax, and on a stranger coming among them, they will cease to enquire respecting his calling.

14. If the importation of experienced Tantees into Chyebassa should have no effect on the habits and prejudices of the Coles, still it would be very advantageous as increasing the party in the country not Coles. The constant transactions between the Tantees and the Coles would in time improve the latter and it must be advantageous to have the manufactured article to carry to market instead of the cocoons. Of all raw produce, the most inconvenient for transport is the cocoon: from its shape, the loss of space is 4 to 1, and it is liable to great damage from wet and friction. I beg to recommend, that the Principal Assistant at Purulia be instructed to ascertain on what terms thirty or forty families would emigrate from Ruggonathpore to Chyebassa, and if not unreasonable, that the Assistant at Chyebassa be ordered to procure land for them in Chyebassa and the neighbourhood. I should like also to see a Sonar or two established at Chyebassa. Though we have not been very successful in teaching the Cole women to value clothes, we might have better success with ornaments. Any thing to induce them to seek for money, and then to spend it, must have more or less effect in altering their habits, and alteration of habits must be improvement—they cannot be worse.

15. The Rajah of Pachete complained, that though many of the villages in his estate were held as putnee talooks, he was not permitted to make use of Regulation VIII. of 1819 for the realization of his revenue. This is another of the cases, such as I have alluded to, under the heading "Civil Justice." In my opinion, the local Authorities were bound to explain to the Government, why the spirit of the law should not be acted up to with reference to the Pachete Putnees, and to show, if it could be shown, that for political reasons it was advisable to suspend the summary process, and to obtain the sanction of the Government to the measure without which such interference was certainly unwarranted.

16. It appears to me, that it has been too common in this Agency to conclude that a system must be unsuitable to the Districts on the South-Western Frontier, merely because it had been found suitable in the Regulation Districts, but I will not pursue this subject in this place, as I shall have occasion to enter fully upon it hereafter.

LAND REVENUE.

17. The land revenue of the District is but Rupees 91,789-6-4, which is paid by twenty-seven mehals, all settled in perpetuity.

18. The revenue being very light, it is, generally discharged with great punctuality. Estates are not sold for arrears. On a balance accruing, if not paid after the issue of a notice, the whole, or part, of the estate is brought under attachment, and the collections made by Government Officers, till the balance shall be liquidated. It is held, that under the Orders dated 13th October 1834, an estate must not, under any circumstances, be sold for arrears, but it appears to me very doubtful whether such was the intention of the Orders alluded to.

19. In his Report of the 3rd 1834, the Governor General's Agent reported the state of Khurrukdea, in the District of Hazareebagh. He represented, that most of the Ghatwals or Tickaits, as the Zemindars are called, were difficulties, in consequence of the usurious demands of the Merchants with whom they had money transactions; that the Tickaits were an ignorant set of people, and by no means expensive in their habits, but that the Mahajuns had imposed on them; and that if they were allowed to recover their debts under Regulations XV. of 1793 and I. of 1798, or XVII. of 1806, they would, in the course of three or four years, become the proprietors of the whole of the landed property in Khurrukdea.

20. The Agent submitted his opinion, that the consequence of the Tickaits being deprived of their lands would be disturbances of a nature similar to those in Nagpore and Bunabhoom; that the Tickaits, although ignorant, possessed great influence in the country; that they were impressed with an idea they had been cheated, and would not be deprived of their estates without resistance. He therefore proposed, that he might be authorized to direct his Assistants to adjust accounts between the parties.

21. In his 8th paragraph he wrote as follows:—"I would extend this mode of settling accounts to all the old hereditary land-holders in the jungle estates, who have been in possession of their lands for generations, but only apply it where the necessity was urgent, for I am extremely sorry to say, that five or six Zemindars of the Manbhoom Division, particularly those of Jhulda, Manbhoom and Chatna, are so deeply involved in debt, that nothing, but the adoption of some plan similar to the one now recommended, can possibly prevent the sale of every village in their estates."

22. The Orders of the 13th of October sanctioned the proposed adjustment in Khurrukdea, and paragraph 2nd is as follows:—"You are also authorized to extend the same mode of settling accounts to all

“ the old hereditary land-holders in the jungle estates for generations, “ limiting the application of it as proposed in paragraph 8th of your “ letter.”

23. Such were the Orders, which have been interpreted to rule, that no Zemindary shall, under any circumstances, be sold for arrears of revenue, and that the Assistants may receive applications for adjustment of accounts, and adjust them in such a manner as they may deem equitable. The orders have not been regarded as relating only to mehals paying revenue to Government, but as embracing also “ shikmees” or sub-tenures. The Agent, in his letter dated 22nd January 1839, peremptorily ordered, that no sales of land belonging to the Baghmindree Mankees should be allowed for the future.

24. I find in this District seventeen mehals under attachment—

9 Zemindaries.

2 Shikmee Mehals, held by a class of people called Mankees.

1 Ghatwallee.

5 Rent-free holdings received by the owners from the Zemindars.

17

One of the Zemindaries has been attached since 1837, another since 1839, a third since 1842. It is held that the Orders of the 13th October 1834, in spirit, if not by word, prohibit the decrees obtained by creditors being satisfied by the sale of lands. The lands are attached only, and, under orders from the Agent, the insolvent proprietors enjoy an income of 16 per cent. on whatever may be collected by the Officers of the Government entrusted with the management of the mehal! Moreover, there is, I think, good reason for supposing, that the income of these protected spendthrifts is by no means confined to this 16 per cent. The papers by which collections are to be made are received from the Zemindars. The Tehsildars are directed to collect according to those papers, and to make enquiries, should there be reason to suppose that resources have been concealed by the Zemindars, but it is clear, that, in practice, collections are for the most part made according to the Zemindar's papers, and that he may enjoy a considerable income. I was told that there is no instance of a decree-holder deputing an agent of his own into the Mofussil to watch the proceedings of the Tehsildar.

25. The Orders of the Government, dated the 17th July 1851, in the case of Lalla Hurree Sunkur, contain an admirable precis of the circum-

stances under which the Orders of the 13th October 1834 were issued, and of their intention, and distinctly direct, that in future, “ they shall be ‘ applied only to Khurrukdea, for which they were especially provided, ‘ excepting in cases of urgency and where caution and discretion are “ admitted to be necessary in their application, even when it is open to “ the discretion of the Agent to apply them.”

26. I recommend, that all the cases of attachment be revised with a view to the careful observation of the Orders above quoted, and to the sale of the estates in liquidation of the sums due under the decrees, if there are no urgent circumstances making another course desirable.

27. In cases in which attachments may be continued, the resources of the property should be carefully scrutinized by a trustworthy Officer, and instead of allowing the Zemindar 16 per cent. on the proceeds, whatever they may be, I would limit his income to just so much as may suffice to keep himself and his family from want, and no more.

28. Were these Zemindars the honest unfortunate victims of adverse circumstances, they might be entitled to sympathy, but (there may be exceptions) as a body they are ignorant, savage, selfish, vicious and corrupt, without one single redeeming virtue. Instead of being in any respect a useful, meritorious body, it would be good for the country, for traders, and all classes, but thieves, if all were to be at once dispossessed and replaced by those who would improve. There is but one single reason for maintaining them in possession, and there never was but one reason, and that is lest, if dispossessed, they should incite their ignorant ryots and followers to create disturbances. Even their mischievous rule is preferable to anarchy. If disturbances are not now likely to be the consequence of dispossession, whether from decrease of their influence or the increased knowledge and independence of the inhabitants, there can be no reason why the claims of creditors should not be satisfied by the sale of estates.

29. There is another class of cases, to which, notwithstanding the unmistakeable instructions contained in the Orders of the 17th July 1851, the Orders of the 13th October 1834 are still considered generally to apply, *viz.*, claims of Zemindars to an equitable adjustment of accounts and the release of their mortgaged lands from the hands of their creditors, to whom they may have been mortgaged.

30. There is but one case of this sort now pending in the Purulia Office, and there is no special reason assigned why that case should be admitted to trial under the Orders. Instead of the admission of such cases

being regarded, as it still is the rule, their admission should be the exception, and I think the Assistant, before admitting one, should submit to the Agent his reasons for considering the Orders of the 13th October applicable, and obtain his sanction to the trial of the case in the manner therein directed.

31. Besides the many other objections, the indiscriminate application of the Orders of the 13th October is objectionable, as occupying so much of the time of the Assistant. The annual rental of the seventeen mehals now under attachment in this District is Rupees 35,456-5-2, the proper management of which, by means of Tehsildars, must occupy time, which might be much better employed.

32. Some up-country Merchants complained to me greatly of the system above described, which they said protected all land-holders of these districts against the just demands of their creditors, and enabled them to continue living in comfort, however much they had defrauded those who had had the misfortune to deal with them.

33. Though, as I have said, I consider the system open to many serious objections, it is easy to answer the petitioners by saying, that it behoved them, before dealing with the land-holders of the South-Western Frontier, to inquire to what Laws they were subject, and if they did not approve of them, to limit their transactions with the protected classes to ready money.

34. In the five years, from 1847-48 to 1852-53, there have been instituted 2,367 summary suits, which is an average of 473 per annum, and since the 1st May, the number instituted has been 419, of which 103 are still pending, but there are but two above three months old. In the same period there have been 4,721 claims for money in deposit, and 465 stamp cases. I would have the greater part of these suits made over to the Deputy Collector, Kaleedoss Paulit, who, though he has hitherto been employed only in the Abkaree Department, is a very clever, well-informed man, and will doubtless, in a very short space of time, make himself as well acquainted with the Revenue as he is with the Abkaree system. This will be a great relief to the Principal Assistant, and if the Deputy Collector is allowed to remain in the District, I anticipate that the administration of all departments will be thoroughly efficient: hitherto it evidently has been a continued struggle, every one, from the Principal Assistant downwards, having more than he could do properly.

35. The records have not been arranged in the manner ordered by the Board of Revenue. They are kept in bundles of cases arranged by the month and year. There are no registers of the papers in the Record-room. The establishments have hitherto been quite insufficient to maintain systematic management, but if they are relieved, as I have proposed, by the transfer of work to the Principal Sudder Ameen and Deputy Collector, I see no reason why the internal arrangement of the Office should not be precisely the same as in the Bengal Districts.

36. The average stamp revenue for the last five years has been Rupees 18,958.

ABKAREE

37. Till lately the Abkaree Department, in Zillah Bancoorah, Manbhoom or Purulia, and Pergunnah Dhulbhoom, in the Chyebassa District, was under Baboo Kaleedoss Paulit, Superintendent, stationed at Purulia.

38. The Abkaree shops in the Purulia District are no less than 833. The average collection under the Abkaree Superintendent have been, from 1848-49 to 1852-53, Rupees 26,851-12-11½; under the Officers of Land Revenue, from 1836-37 to 1840-41, they were Rupees 9,655-9-0: the expenses under the Superintendent have averaged Rupees 5,627, leaving an average gain of Rupees 11,569 per annum.

39. The Abkaree having now been transferred to the Collector of Revenue, Kaleedoss Paulit has been transferred to that department, and the Principal Assistant is very desirous, that he should remain here in charge of the Abkaree Mehal, and to assist him in the other departments of his Office connected with the Revenue.

40. The Governor General's Agent having consulted the Assistant as to how the services of Kaleedoss Paulit could be most advantageously employed, Captain Oakes replied:—"With regard to the 7th paragraph of your letter, I beg respectfully to state for your information, that I have already almost the entire charge of the Civil, Criminal and Fiscal duties of the Division, besides the miscellaneous work, such as those of the Post Office, Schools, &c. &c. From these circumstances, most of my work gets into arrear; I therefore do not deem myself competent to undertake, in this present instance, with any degree of efficiency, the duties of the Abkaree Mehal, without a moderate addition to my Sudder establishment, as proposed by me, since those duties are no less onerous than those I have to conduct at present."

41. Captain Oakes concluded by proposing that "Kaleedoss Paulit" should have also the Abkaree duties of the Hazareebagh and Lohar-dugga Divisions. I would begin by giving him charge of the Hazareebagh Division. He has had so much experience in the department, and has given so much satisfaction in the conduct of the duties, that as a temporary measure, I think it might be very advantageous to place the Abkaree Department of each of the Districts of Chota Nagpore for a time under his charge, with a view to the development of the resources and the establishment of systematic management, such as prevails elsewhere."

CIVIL JUSTICE.

42. The Civil Courts of the District are the Court of the Principal Assistant, the Court of the Principal Sudder Ameen, and four Moonsiffs' Courts. Appeals from the Moonsiffs are received by the Principal Assistant; he tries some himself, and makes over some to be tried by the Principal Sudder Ameen. Appeals from the Principal Sudder Ameen were formerly tried by the Assistant; they are now tried by the Deputy Commissioner, and it has become a question, whether it is on the whole most advantageous that they should be tried by the Deputy Commissioner at Chota Nagpore, or by the Assistant at Purulia.

43. The Civil business is light, compared with most Districts in the Regulation Provinces.

44. The Returns received, show that between January and September, the Principal Assistant disposed of 20 cases, original and appeals—the Principal Sudder Ameen decided 124 cases, original and appeals. In the Returns from the Principal Sudder Ameen, I find that, as in Cuttack and Midnapore, most of the cases are disposed of by that Officer in the last week of the month. Out of the 124 cases decided, 85 belong to the last weeks of the months, and so with the Moonsiff of Manbazar.

In January he decided no case before the 28th.

„ February	ditto	ditto	17th.
„ March	ditto	ditto	16th.
„ April	ditto	ditto	8th.
„ May	ditto	ditto	10th.
„ June	ditto	ditto	18th.
„ July	ditto	ditto	14th.
„ August	ditto	ditto	8th.
„ September	ditto	ditto	22nd.

The Moonsiffs of Lukdah, Ruggonathpore and Chatna were for the most part employed throughout the month.

45. The Principal Sudder Ameen has on his establishment one Mohurir receiving Rupees 4, and one receiving Rupees 3; the Moonsiff of Lukdah has one Mohurir, receiving Rupees 3; the Moonsiff of Ruggonathpore has two Mohurirs, receiving Rupees 4 each; the Moonsiff of Chatna has four Mohurirs, receiving Rupees 4 each.

46. As three out of the four Moonsiffs employ themselves in deciding cases, throughout the month, it is evident that, with good management, it is not absolutely necessary to limit the decision of cases to the latter weeks, but I consider the Returns received as confirmatory of the correctness of the representations. I have already submitted, that the establishments allowed are not sufficient, and that it would be good economy to allow larger establishments to all grades of Native Judges. Officers receiving Rupees 20 per day sit idle for want of a few Mohurirs, who are paid at the rate of 5 annas per day each.

47. Cases have hitherto remained pending longer than is necessary with good management. The cases disposed of by the Principal Assistant, between the 1st January and the end of September, had on an average been pending two years six months and twenty-two days, and the cases disposed of by the Principal Sudder Ameen had been pending one year nine months and three days, and one suit disposed of had been pending upwards of five years. Before the Moonsiff, the average was from three months and thirteen days to seven months and twenty-nine days. If the increased establishments and the distribution of the work I have recommended be sanctioned, I expect that the average time for a case to remain pending will be greatly decreased.

48. I examined several nuthees of cases disposed of, and found the decrees of the Principal Assistant in his own hand-writing attached to the nuthees, as directed.

49. The Principal Assistant has, on his own file, original suits of no particular consequence, and also appeals from Moonsiffs; all these should be sent to the Principal Sudder Ameen, the Assistant himself occasionally keeping an appeal decided by each Moonsiff, in order that he may be acquainted with their manner of transacting business, and any original cases, which for some special reason it may be desirable he should keep on his own file. The Principal Sudder Ameen, Tarrucknath Sein, is a very able Officer, and it is desirable that the time of the Principal Assis-

tant should not be occupied with business which can be timely and efficiently disposed of by the Principal Sudder Ameen.

50. It has been usual for the Principal Assistant to dispose of Civil suits, as well in Camp as at the Sudder Station. There is no occasion for this. It must be extremely inconvenient for all parties concerned, and the practice should, I think, be stopped.

51. There are pending, in the file of the Principal Assistant, fifty-six miscellaneous appeals, connected with the execution of decrees, &c.—all these I would transfer to the Principal Sudder Ameen.

52. It appears to be undecided, whether summary appeals and other miscellaneous appeals from the orders of the Principal Sudder Ameen should be to the Principal Assistant or to the Deputy Commissioner. Both receive them; this must be wrong: I would have the summary appeals carried to the Court authorized to hear the regular appeals.

53. There are no Vakeels appointed, according to the system which prevails in the Regulation Provinces. There are forty persons called Mooktears, who practice before the Assistant and before the Principal Sudder Ameen. I see no reason whatever why Vakeels should not be nominated for the Court of the Principal Sudder Ameen, as they are elsewhere. Some of the Mooktears appear able, and to have considerable knowledge of the Laws, Circular Orders, &c., and though it is very desirable, that the Rules of Procedure, which are considered cumbersome and unsuitable in the Regulation Provinces, should be kept out of these Offices, I would have all Rules which are generally allowed to be suitable, observed, and appoint Vakeels after the manner of the Civil Courts.

54. In 1834 Major Wilkinson drew up some Rules for the guidance of all the Assistants in conducting the Civil business of their Offices, but as it was supposed then, that some new Rules of Procedure would shortly be promulgated, they were not sanctioned by the Government, and there has been no subsequent attempt to preserve uniformity of proceeding in the several Offices.

55. As a new Code of Procedure is now under preparation, perhaps it is not worth while to disturb any existing practice not shown to be actually mischievous, but if it is probable there will be considerable delay, by which I mean delay of two or three years, before a new Code shall be promulgated, I recommend that the Agent, the Deputy Commissioner and the Principal Assistant at Chota Nagpore be directed to prepare a few simple concise Rules of Procedure for the guidance of the Assistants,

the Sudder Ameens and Moonsiffs, till the new Rules shall be promulgated.

56. That they are necessary is shown, I think, by its being now a question, whether a summary appeal from the orders of the Principal Sudder Ameen shall be heard by the Assistant or by the Deputy Commissioner, and by the Principal Sudder Ameen allowing a case to lie over for two years, because the Government being concerned, and there being no one entrusted with the care of Government cases, he could not get an answer filed! I have no doubt, that the Officers I have named, sitting as a Committee, could in a few days prepare Rules sufficient for remedying all existing informalities and inconsistencies.

57. It is not only Rules of Procedure that are called for; it would appear, that the local Authorities have been in the habit of laying down Rules, which here amount to Laws, to have effect generally without having sought the sanction of the Government; some of these have been communicated by letter, some by rooboocaree. I think it would be well, if all these By-laws, whether contained in rooboocarees or letters, were collected, revised, submitted for the approval of Government, and then made public, in order that all might know what Rules prevailed in these Districts, and shape their conduct accordingly.

58. The necessity for this course is I think proved by the following cases, which show how uncertain it is, whether the spirit of the Regulations and Acts or local Rules should be observed. The Sudder Ameen begged to be instructed whether the promulgation of an Ishtchar by the Governor General's Agent, in any of the estates of the Agency, forbidding Mahajuns to lend money to the Zemindars of the estate, was sufficient to bar the creditor's claim to the recovery of a loan, actually taken by the Zemindar, after the date of the notice alluded to—if so, what was the authority for it?

59. Secondly, whether Captain Hannington's proposal, to hold the heirs and estates of deceased Zemindars irresponsible for their debts, was sanctioned by the Government; if so, when? if not, whether it is to be considered as a local Rule, if sanctioned only by the Governor General's Agent?

60. It appears that no answer was given to this letter. The Assistant called up the case from the Office of the Principal Sudder Ameen and decided it himself, ruling that as the bond had been proved, and no proof of sanction to the Agent's Rule had been produced, the plaintiff was

entitled to a decree. It was returned by the Deputy Commissioner for revision, and is still pending.

61. The parties in the case filed correspondence, which had taken place between the Assistant, Captain Hannyngton, and the Agent, Colonel Ouseley, in which the Assistant (dated 30th March 1842) said—"For the past there seems no remedy but time and patience. If however we regard the future, I would hope to ameliorate the condition of the country. I have no hesitation in recommending, as a most effective measure, the promulgation of a Law, or equally authoritative notice; that so long at least as the peculiar system of this Agency continues, the heirs of the several Zemindars will not in future be held responsible for their predecessors' debts." The Agent replied—"I perfectly coincide with you in the mode you point out of relieving the heirs of insolvent Zemindars, and shall not delay submitting your letter to the Government. After due notice, if Mahajuns are weak enough to lend money to the Zemindars, they must run the risk of losing all on the demise of the debtor."

62. The last sentence of this letter appears to rule, that a creditor shall have no claim on the estate of a deceased debtor, though the letter was not submitted to Government.

63. A curious correspondence took place in 1852, between the Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner, relative to the sale of estates in execution of decrees, showing a state of things which certainly calls for speedy remedy. In his letter of the 17th June, the Agent told the Deputy Commissioner, that he had ascertained there were eighteen tenures held under attachment by the Principal Assistant of Lohardugga in execution of decrees of Court, and that there was no reason why the rights of the proprietors, with one exception, should not be sold in the ordinary course of execution of decrees. The Deputy Commissioner told the Agent in answer, that he did not understand whether the Agent expected him to do any thing in furtherance of the views expressed in the letter above quoted, and reminded him that his letter of the 8th November had entirely removed such matters from his control. To this, on the 21st June, the Agent replied, that although from what he had said, the Deputy Commissioner might infer, that he was of opinion the Judicial Authorities could bring the tenures in question to sale in ordinary course of Law, he did not wish to see such a measure taken, for the sudden advertisement of so large a number of mehals for sale might prove a source of in-

convenience, if in no other way, by depreciating the value of such tenures, and he suggested to the Deputy Commissioner, that he should solicit instructions from the Sudder Dewanny Adawlut as to how the decrees should be executed. He proceeded to say:—"It seems to me, that although the said tenures do not fall individually within the reserved jurisdiction of this Office, yet they may be deserving of consideration collectively, and that as they appear to have received protection from sale originally in pursuance of local, though unauthorized practice, the Sudder Court may think it expedient, that such protection should be continued to them." Again, in his letter of the 22nd of June, the Agent wrote:—"The tenures in question are of a class, to which individually the reserved jurisdiction of this Office does not extend, and regarding the disposal of which it appears to me desirable that the highest judicial authority should be consulted."

64. The Deputy Commissioner accordingly reported to the Sudder Court, and was told in answer, that the Court had no competency to prescribe Rules for the exemption from sale of the lands in question, or of estates similarly situated; that it was understood, the Governor General's Agent had a discretion to stay such sales upon political considerations, and that if other Rules were considered necessary, a reference must be made to the Government through the Agent—in the meantime, that the Courts must act upon each application in the ordinary course.

65. But notwithstanding this, the attached estates were not sold. On reference to Government, the Agent was directed to exercise his discretion. Though the Agent had admitted that the tenures were not such as were protected by the special Rules, and that no political reasons existed why they should not be sold, and the Sudder Court had instructed the authorities that they were bound to act on the application of decreeholders in ordinary course of Law, some were neither sold nor released—they remained under attachment as before.

66. The purport of the Orders of the Sudder Court is clear. The motives which led to the reference were altogether mistaken. It is difficult to imagine how the Governor General's Agent could have supposed that the Sudder Court had jurisdiction to interfere. The Chota Nagpore authorities are to act up to the spirit of the Laws. When they think the spirit of the Laws inapplicable from special reasons of policy or expediency, they are to report, in order that the Executive Government may make use of the powers created by Regulation XIII. of 1833.

67. As I have said, it certainly is necessary that all Orders directing a practice to be generally observed, which practice* is opposed to the spirit of the Regulations, should be collected together, revised, and submitted to Government for approval; and, for the future, though a general discretion may be vested in the Agent, I would have the Agent forward monthly or quarterly a separate precis of the Orders issued by him, directing proceedings opposed to the spirit of the Laws.

68. It appears to me, that the theory of the Government of these Provinces is excellent. The Laws of the Regulation Provinces are to be observed, but if in any instance of general application, or if in any particular instance, the Law is to be disregarded, the Agent practically, though I am told not by direct sanction, has a discretion to direct a different course to be followed. I think it would be well, if in all instances of general application, not of immediate urgency, the Agent applied for the sanction of Government, before directing the non-observance of the spirit of the Laws.

69. I will return to this subject when reporting on the Offices of the Agent and Deputy Commissioner.

70. The Principal Assistant recommends, that appeals from the decrees of the Principal Sudder Ameen should be heard in his Office. He writes:—"The parties in the case would be spared the trouble and expense of proceeding to Chota Nagpore, for the purpose of having their cases decided." The Mooktears unanimously gave their voices in favor of the appeal lying to the Assistant, but they are not in a position to give an unbiassed opinion, for it would be greatly to their advantage, the appeals being heard at Purulia, instead of at Chota Nagpore.

71. Upon the whole, I am decidedly of opinion, that the appeal should be to the Deputy Commissioner. He will always be an Officer of considerable experience, whereas Principal Assistants are occasionally, from the necessities of the service, appointed when they have had but little experience, and sometimes when they have had no experience at all. Moreover, the Deputy Commissioner represents, and I concur with him, that the duties of the Principal Assistants have so much increased, they have no time to take up and decide these cases within proper time. The

* I allude to such Orders as those directing that attachments under Regulations XVII. of 1793 and V. of 1812 shall not be allowed in Dhulbhoom, directing that no tenures held by Mankes should be considered liable to sale in execution of decrees of Court.

present Officiating Agent is also of the same opinion, and as it appears the Sudder Court is of opinion, that according to the spirit of the Regulations, the appeal should be to the Principal Assistant, I recommend that the Government, by virtue of the power vested in the Executive by Act XIII. of 1833, should direct appeals from the decisions of the Principal Sudder Ameen to be received and decided by the Deputy Commissioner.

72. From July 1852 the records have been arranged in conformity with the Orders of the Court, but the records previous to that period have not been arranged in the manner prescribed, nobody having time to do it. In appeals disposed of, though the nuthee connected with the appeal has been arranged in the manner directed, the papers to be destroyed after one year, and the papers to be destroyed after twelve years, being separated, the plan has not been carried out as regards the nuthee of the original case filed with it. This remains to be done. The old papers up to 1838 have been destroyed, retaining the decrees and the proofs as directed. Two additional ticca Mohurirs have now been employed, pending the sanction of the Government, to perform this work, and by degrees it will be completed.

73. Sheik Ketro Meesh, a prisoner in the Dewanny Jail, having complained to me, that he had been in prison above a year and a half, I called for the proceedings, when it appeared that he was imprisoned on the 24th July 1852. On his representing, that what property he was possessed of had been sold, the Moonsiff was directed to enquire; he reported on the 1st April 1853, that he appeared to be possessed of a jote in Lahovileea, but whether any saleable value attached to this tenure or not, does not appear, and though the prisoner petitioned again on the 5th September 1853, and the decree-holder has done nothing to bring the jote if saleable, to sale, he is still in confinement. It appears to me that he ought to have been long since released.

74. Another case of irregularity came to my notice. On the 28th November last, Asmunmuttero was committed to prison for an arrear of rent, under Regulation VII. of 1799. He shortly after filed an answer to the plaint, denying that any thing was due by him to the plaintiff. He is still in jail, and the case has not yet been heard. It should have been brought to a hearing without reference to its place in the file, the party being in confinement.*

* I brought these cases to the notice of the controlling authorities, and suitable orders have been issued.

75. The Principal Assistant and the Principal Sudder Ameen have both brought to my notice the necessity of appointing a person, either Mooktear or Vakeel, to watch over the interests of the Government, and to conduct Government suits. Under date the 1st April 1853, the Principal Sudder Ameen wrote—"The practice of appointing almost all Mooktears, who plead in our Courts, by turn, to defend the Government, is, in my humble opinion, not only open to objection, but susceptible of great inconvenience and delay in the decision of the suits. The Mooktears thus appointed do not scruple to resign their mooktearnamah on the part of Government when they can be engaged on behalf of the Zemindars."

76. I find on enquiry, that during the last five years, there has been but one case, in which the Government was interested—the amount at stake was Rupees 1,274. The necessity therefore of having a regular Government Pleader appointed is not made out.

77. The Principal Assistant represents, that his Omlah are unequal to the work demanded of them. He requires a Mohurir in the Revenue Department, a Mohurir in the Criminal Department, and another English Writer. If the arrangements I have recommended for making over more of the Civil and of the Criminal business to the Principal Sudder Ameen, and part of the Revenue business to the Deputy Collector, be approved, there will be no occasion to increase the establishment, excepting in the English Department. The Principal Assistant has two Writers for all the business of his three Offices. It is quite impossible, that two men should prepare all the Returns required to the Offices of Account and the superior authorities, and conduct the correspondence of the Office. I would allow a third Writer on Rupees 20, with the proviso, that opportunity offering, the salary of the second Writer, who now receives Rupees 40, be reduced to Rupees 30 per mensem, so that the eventual increase will be Rupees 10 per mensem only.

78. There appears to be no objection to the reductions in the number of Burkundazes and Chuprassies proposed by the Agent, in the Statement enclosed in his letter to your address, dated the 7th October 1852, except that no Kalassies are entered therein: Kalassies must be maintained, especially in these Districts, the Officers of which are expected to be at all times ready to proceed into the Mofussil. Two Kalassies at Rupees 4 each, should be added to the establishment proposed, making it Rupees 115, instead of Rupees 107, and the saving Rupees 80 instead of Rupees 88.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

79. The Courts of Criminal Justice are, the Court of the Principal Assistant and the Court of the Principal Sudder Ameen, with powers of Magistrate.

80. The Principal Assistant exercises the power of a Magistrate in the Regulation Provinces, with the special powers mentioned, when reporting on Chyebassa. If he considers sentence of more than three years necessary, and a sentence of between that and seven years sufficient, he orders accordingly, and submits a Report of his proceedings to the Agent for approval; when a sentence of more than seven years appears called for, the party is committed for trial before the Deputy Commissioner, who comes on circuit to Purulia, to hold a Jail Delivery twice a year, or oftener, if necessary.

81. From 1851 to 1852, there were 7,953 witnesses examined; of these 659 were detained only one day, 4,871 detained more than one, and not exceeding six days, and 2,423 were detained above six days and not eight days.

82. During this period, the convictions in heinous cases were 590, the acquittals 557.

83. The detention of the witnesses for such long periods is not satisfactory. The Principal Assistant represents, that having to attend to the Civil and Revenue Departments of his Office, often times two days, and sometimes more, intervene between sittings in the Criminal Court. I have recommended, that nearly all Civil cases should be transferred to the Principal Sudder Ameen, and a portion of the Revenue duties to Baboo Kaleedoss Paulit, late Superintendent of Abkarree, now Deputy Collector. Should these recommendations be approved, the Principal Assistant will be able to give more time to the Criminal Court, and witnesses will not be detained.

84. Cases are made over to the Principal Sudder Ameen by the Assistant. It would be well, I think, if all trifling cases were systematically transferred to this Officer. In 1851 he disposed of forty-eight cases, in 1852 he disposed of forty-six. He has time at his disposal, he is able and willing, and the Assistant should relieve himself as much as possible of all cases which the Principal Sudder Ameen can dispose of.

85. Because these Districts pay but little Land Revenue, it has been usual to suppose that the business must be light, but with a population of above 7,00,000 people, the work must be heavy. The Officer in charge of all departments should regard it as his chief duty to superin-

tend, and see that his subordinates perform their duties efficiently and never to busy himself with any thing that could be done equally well by one of them. Such a system has been quite unknown at Purulia, but it is indispensably necessary to good management.

86. Under the Orders of the Government, dated 17th March 1834, the Moonsiffs hear trifling Criminal cases, and fine as far as Rupees 5, sending Monthly Returns of the cases disposed of to the Assistant. As I have already said, in reporting on Midnapore, that I would allow all Moonsiffs to hear and dispose of such cases with the ordinary powers of an Assistant, of course I approve of this system. Especially in this Division, where the heads of Offices exercise authority in the Civil, Criminal and Revenue Departments, I would make use of all subordinates in all departments likewise.

POLICE.

87. There are three systems of Police in this District. The usual Thannah system of the Regulation Provinces; the unchecked and unassisted Zemindary system, in which the Zemindars manage the Police themselves; the checked and assisted system, under which in each Zemindary there is a Mohurir, appointed by the Assistant, and paid by the Government. He is regarded as the Assistant of the Zemindar, and as standing in the same position towards him, as the Mohurir of a Thannah stands to the Darogah, but, in point of fact, in some parts, the Mohurir is something more—he is a spy on the movements of the Zemindar, in others he helps and instructs the Zemindar in his duties.

88. There are four Thannahs with the usual Police establishments.

89. The Zemindars of Soopoor, Ambeekanugger, Manbhoom, Burra-bhoom, Simlapal and Pandra have the Police entirely in their hands.

90. In the Zemindaries of Soopoor, Makundpoor, Bajmooree, Jhulda, Beginkhoda, Hemsla, Tirang, Patcomb and Toondree, the Zemindars have the management of the Police, but at the residence of each Zemindar, a Mohurir is established, who writes the Report of the Zemindars and is regarded by the Assistant as his representative, his agent in the Zemindar's Office. The Reports are always signed by the Zemindar, though in the hand-writing of the Mohurir; the Zemindar is answerable for the contents. It is not usual for the Mohurirs to correspond at all with the Assistant, but the Assistant would expect to be informed by the Mohurir

of any transactions on the part of the Zemindar, or his people, incompatible with his position as the head of the Police.

91. One of the four Thannahs, Rajabila, has not been long established. It comprises only five Zemindaries, Noagurh, Kattras, Nugger Reeonee, Jereea, and Jynuggur. Formerly, on the system above explained, there was a Mohurir in each Zemindary; now; the Mohurirs have been dispensed with, and a regular Thannah establishment entertained.

92. A Deputy Magistrate, located at Baghshumar, on the high road, has jurisdiction over this Thannah and over the Zemindaries of Pansa and Toonree. The Zemindar of Pansa has the immediate management of the Police; the Zemindar of Toonree has the assistance of a Mohurir on the footing above described. The Deputy Magistrate located at Munglepore has jurisdiction over the Thannahs of Ruggonathpore and Goraugdehee, which formerly were under the Principal Assistant of Purulia.

93. In the Statements for three years, from 1851 to 1853, I find the following heinous crimes:—

Murders,	18
Culpable Homicide,	7
Assault with Wounding,	25
Dacoity with Murder,	3
Ditto ditto Wounding,	7
Simple Dacoity,	73
Highway Robbery,	15
Theft with Wounding,	7

94. Altogether 941 heinous offences were reported, of which 484 took place in the four Thannahs under regular Police, 457 in the fifteen Zemindaries, of which the Zemindars have the Police.

95. This is a heavy list of serious offences and the Returns do not show the Police to be efficient.

96. In 1850, out of 275 accused of dacoity, 6 were punished; in 1851, out of 776, 43 were punished; and in 1852, out of 1,376, 174 were punished. Though the proportion of convictions has increased, and so far there may be said to be improvement, the great increase in the amount of crime is certainly not satisfactory, and the best endeavors of the local authorities should be exerted to put down these violent robberies. We may make roads, and open markets, but all will be vain; so long as dacoity shall be common, merchants will not send their capital into these Districts.

97. In the three years, the average number of persons apprehended was 1,456½, the average number of persons punished was 609½, of the per-

sons apprehended on an average 354 were released on bail by the Police and not sent in to take their trial.

98. The disproportion between the number apprehended and the number punished has, on several occasions, attracted the attention of the Court of Nizamut Adawlut, and the Principal Assistant has been directed to take measures for effectually preventing the apprehension of accused persons, against whom there is no proof sufficient to warrant their being punished. These orders have been carried into effect.

99. There is no first class Darogah in the District, two are of the second grade. It is usual for Officers of the third grade to be appointed and dismissed by the Assistant. Officers of the superior grades are appointed and removed with the sanction of the Agent. All the four Darogahs are persons who have been many years in the service in inferior posts. These are the last Districts in which the effects of improved systems will be felt. The people are so wild and rude, and the establishments are all so small and so poorly paid, there is such want of society, and such difficulty in procuring any thing, except the commonest supplies, that no Natives will remain who can procure employment elsewhere. Though Purulia has been a station for nineteen years, and is not far from places very thickly inhabited, the number of inhabitants is still estimated at 3,287 only, and there appears to be very little trade connected with the place, and nothing to induce a supposition, that it will ever be a place of any wealth or consequence.

100. The Principal Assistant represents, that the Police in the parts of the District where the Zemindars have the charge is extremely inefficient, in consequence of the Zemindars being altogether unfit for the charge, both from their habits and their character, but unless heinous offences are systematically concealed by the Zemindars, this opinion is not borne out by the Returns, which show the number of crimes committed to have increased in the Thannahs and decreased in the Zemindaries:—

<i>Years.</i>	<i>Thannahs.</i>	<i>Zemindaries.</i>
1850,.... ..	111	195
1851,.... ..	178	155
1852,.... ..	195	107

101. The Police of this District appears to require much attention. As when I commenced my tour, the year 1853 had not expired, and the Returns for that year are still not made up, I have limited my inquiries, for the most part, to 1852; but as the Returns for this District gave such

a very unfavorable account of the Police, I called on the Principal Assistant for Statements for the year 1853. This Statement shows, that there has been very great improvement. In the past year, there were but three dacoities and two attempts to commit dacoity, and seven highway robberies, but only 19 persons were punished out of 191, said to have been engaged in these crimes. Though these guesses at the number of persons supposed to have been engaged, are generally speaking greatly exaggerated, improvement is still called for.

102. Captain Oakes represents, that the Mofussil Police is extremely inefficient. It is composed of Soudar Ghatwals, Suddeals, Tikadars, Digwars, Naib Digwars, and Chowkeedars. Most of these hold jagheer lands—some are paid money salaries, which are found as low as four annas per mensem. So long as the Police shall be in the hands of such persons as the Zemindars of these pergunnahs, it seems hopeless to endeavour to effect improvement, but I think, the Assistant, relieved as he now will be in the Civil and Revenue Departments, should, in the ensuing cold season, give his especial attention to the Police of his four Thannahs; visit them; and if he cannot immediately introduce improvement, at all events lay the foundation for future increased efficiency, by providing sufficient remuneration, either in land or money, for those employed. One Chowkeedar, with a sufficient salary to keep him above want, and to make his place a desirable occupation, would be more useful than any number of men compelled to serve on four annas per mensem. On vacancies occurring, no new appointments should be made, but the land or money be transferred to another, till he shall have sufficient to secure the services of a person with some intelligence.

103. The Principal Sudder Ameen brought to my notice the conduct of the Soopoor Rajah, who has charge of the Police of his Zemindary, in a case of dacoity, in which the Rajah concealed the fact of one of the accused having confessed, and allowed the case to be adjusted by the payment of Rupees 10 to the party plundered. The Principal Sudder Ameen, in his letter of the 7th March 1853, reported the case to the Principal Assistant. On enquiry from the Principal Assistant, whether any proceedings had been held in the case, he informs me, "that he had detained the said letter in his Office, with the intention of drawing out a special Report and bringing many delinquencies of the Rajah, who was incapable of conducting his duties in a proper manner, to the notice of the Agent." This letter should not

have remained nearly a year unnoticed, especially when dacoity prevailed to the extent shown in the Statement. I think it is desirable, that the Principal Assistant should be called upon for a special Report on the Soopoor Police, with a view to taking it out of the hands of the Rajah and appointing a Police force at his cost, should his delinquency appear to be such as to call for that measure.

JAIL.

104. This Jail is of the same character as the Chyebassa Jail, mud and thatch. The plan is open to fewer objections, but the arrangements are worse.

105. There is one large room 130 × 16, in which all those sentenced to long periods of imprisonment are confined. In this room there are now 106 persons; allowing 6 × 4, or 24 superficial feet, for each person to lie on, the space should be 2,544 feet, but the ward is only 2,080 feet, so that there are now more than there should be, and the number, if necessary, is increased to 125. In the room to the left of the gate, 90 × 16, those sentenced to short periods, and those under trial are placed. Here also there are too many. I found 70 in confinement; they ought to have 1,680 feet, they have only 1,440. At this season of the year it is of less consequence, the Jail being a little crowded, and they are not unhealthy; but in the hot months, there should not be above 86 in the long ward and 60 in the smaller ward at the utmost.

106. The cook-rooms are longer than is necessary. I would convert one-half into another ward for prisoners. The Civil prisoners and the women should be removed elsewhere, and the rooms they occupy made into another ward.

107. The Hospital for the sick is situated to the South, the cooking-room for the sick is to the North. I would enlarge a sentry-box, which stands near the Hospital, and make it into a cooking-room for the sick. I would make the room marked A the apartment for women, and the present cooking-room for the sick their cooking-room. This would, with walls erected, as marked in the plan, be as much separated from the male prisoners, as circumstances will admit of. The godown-room marked B I would make the Civil Jail.

108. The whole is now surrounded by a bank and ditch. I would throw the bank back into the ditch, and build a pukka wall eight feet high all round. The prisoners could burn the bricks, burn the lime, and

assist in building the wall. The cost would be inconsiderable, and there would then be some little security. The godown may require a few alterations to make it suitable for the Civil prisoners, but alterations of mud and thatch cost but little. The thatch should be every where lifted a few inches from the wall for the sake of ventilation; of course escape is facilitated by such an arrangement, but it is of little moment, when there are so many other chances of escape, and such ventilation is most needful.

109. I found charpoys, made after the usual plan, with wooden frame and net-work of rope, preparing for the prisoners, but I recommend that pending further orders they should not be allowed. They have been tried again and again, and always failed. They soon become so full of vermin, that they cannot be tolerated. If circumstances are such, that the prisoners must be kept off the ground, the best plan is brick-work at the head and feet, with planks that can be taken out and thoroughly washed and dried, or planks placed on edge between uprights will answer as well, when for any reason brick-work is scarce or objectionable.

110. The Returns show that the prisoners of this Jail, though for the most part healthy, are liable to periodical visitations from the cholera, on which occasions the mortality is very great. With the further accommodation I have proposed to provide, there will be no such crowding as there has been, and the Assistant should be instructed, when the weather is very hot and cholera apprehended, to allow the prisoners more rest in the heat of the day.

111. During the last five years, the deaths in the Jail have been 196; in the last three years 104, as shown in the margin. It will not escape observation, that in 1851, when the number confined was less than half what it was in 1852, there was no cholera.

112. The Surgeon notices the want of Privies, and,

A Statement showing the Number of Prisoners in the Jail in each month, for the years 1851, 1852, and 1853, as well as the Number of Deaths during the same period.

Months.	1851.		1852.		1853.	
	Number of Prisoners.	Number of Deaths.	Number of Prisoners.	Number of Deaths.	Number of Prisoners.	Number of Deaths.
January,	147	0	194	1	255	0
February,	136	0	212	0	267	1
March,	132	0	232	0	233	1
April,	132	0	406	1	210	1
May,	126	0	372	30	223	1
June,	124	1	276	25	175	30
July,	144	0	297	2	197	4
August,	138	1	323	1	248	0
September,	157	1	262	1	235	0
October,	146	1	249	0	244	0
November,	156	0	228	0	223	0
December,	174	0	226	1	207	0
Total,	1,712	4	3,278	62	2,712	38

having remarked that when cholera prevails, those sentenced to short periods, and prisoners under trial, always suffer most, recommends that all prisoners, however short their period of confinement, should be provided with a blanket. Privies certainly are wanted; and in this, and all other Jails, with mud walls and floors of masonry, there should be a little slope to the middle of the ward so that the floors may be washed without the water soaking into the walls and making the place damp and unwholesome.

113. The prisoners should all be provided, twice a year, with the common cheap mats made of the leaf of the Kajur-tree.

CUTCHERRY HOUSE AND THANNAH.

114. The Cutcherry House is small, and built on the worst possible plan. Nearly all the rooms, even that in which the Principal Assistant sits, are filled with records arranged on shelves from the top of the doors to the ceiling. There is no Treasury; the treasure is kept in the room on the South-west corner,* which is open North and South, and always full of Omlah and other people. I recommend that the additions dotted in the accompanying plan should be added. If as much use as possible be made of the prisoners in burning the bricks and assisting in the building, they will cost but little. The separate building close to the Office of the Assistant, now occupied by the Superintendent of Abkarree, I would make over to the Moonsiff, who now sits in a hut at some distance from the other Offices. The Principal Sudder Ameen's Office is built on a plan, by which as little as possible is made of the quantity of masonry it contains, but no alteration is immediately called for.

115. The Thannah ought to hold seventeen Burkundazes, and it will not hold above seven. I found the Lock-up Room without a door, the explanation was that prisoners detained were always sent to the Jail. A room should be added capable of containing ten Burkundazes, and the Lock-up Room should have a door with a lock.

ROADS.

116. I have lately traversed what is called a made road, which in this, as in other parts of India, is made by digging two trenches and throwing up the earth in the middle between the two. There are very few localities in which this operation makes a good road, and in these

* See plan annexed.

parts, where the country undulates, it must make a bad one. Unless funds can be afforded for making a complete road with bridges, this throwing up of earth always increases existing difficulties, and creates more, especially when the country is not flat and no part of this country is flat.

117. By raising the road and interfering with the drainage, many places, where there would have been no difficulty without the made road, become impassable, as shown in the margin. The line above represents a section of the tract before the made-road was constructed, and the line below a section of the made road after the first fall of rain; and this is not the only disadvantage. The drains on the upper side of the road conduct all the water into one channel, and that which was excavated two feet deep in one season becomes a ravine seven or eight feet deep. The money laid out in this sort of road-making is worse than thrown away, and I recommend that throughout this Division improvements should be limited to jungle-cutting* and smoothing, unless complete bridging be contemplated and then that the bridges be made first, and the road to them when they shall have been completed.

118. In reporting on Chyebassa, I have described the system of fair weather roads, which should, in my opinion, be introduced in these Districts. Captain Oakes, who has now been acquainted with these Districts for many years, says, the "roads required are one from Bunabhoom to "Purulia, for the transit of Timber.



* The line should be marked by the smallest mark that will last, merely to prevent future claims for compensation.

"From Sillee *via* Purulia to Bancoorah, for the export of Grain and import of Salt.

"From Purulia to Raneegunge, the terminus at the Collieries."

He is of opinion, that traffic would be greatly increased if these roads were improved.

119. I have already proposed, that the road should be made passable from Chyebassa through Seraikela to Purulia. Burra Bazar is only sixteen miles from this line. There are already several paths from the line to Burra Bazar: one of them should be improved. There also is a road from Sillee *via* Purulia to Bancoorah. Five rupees per mile, laid out each year in repairs, would make it an excellent road between Purulia and Bancoorah; where the opening through the jungle is not sixty feet wide, it should be made that width. The line from Purulia through Ruggoonauthpore to Raneegunge might for a few miles East of Raneegunge cost a little more than in other parts, as I understand there are ravines which each year would require a good deal of levelling and smoothing.

120. If there already is not a road, a track of the same sort should be opened from Bancoorah to Raneegunge, and from Burra Bazar South to Ghatseela in Dhulbhoom on the Subenreeka.

121. All Singbhoom, Dhulbhoom, Patcoorah, Bunabhoom and Manbhoom will then be opened out, and seeing the way in which traffic is carried on, notwithstanding all the difficulties, drawbacks and dangers to be encountered and overcome, I cannot help thinking, that in a few years the traffic may have no inconsiderable effect on Railway dividends and the proceeds of the Custom House.

122. Annexed is a rough sketch of the fair-weather roads proposed, the aggregate length is about 520 miles. For Rupees 10,500 for the first year, and Rupees 5,250 at the utmost each year afterwards, these long lines of communication may be made practicable for all sorts of wheeled carriages from the beginning of November to the middle of June in each year, provided the repairs be conducted on the plan I have proposed in reporting on Chyebassa.

SALT.

123. The Salt for the supply of this District is brought partly from Bishenpore and Ghuttal and partly from Cuttack. The Cuttack Salt is brought from the Keypara Golah, through Keongur and Chyebassa. Bala-

sore Salt is said to be sometimes procurable, but whether brought from Mohurbunge or not, I could not discover. The Beeparres told me that Salt was nearly always procurable at Bishenpore, for Rupees 4 per maund, and that oftentimes it could be had at Ghuttal at from Rupees 2-12 to Rupees 3-4 per maund. Of course, Salt sold at Ghuttal, at either Rupees 2-12 or Rupees 3-4 per maund, must be smuggled, the price being less than the price of the illicit article at the Golahs of Tumlook and Hidgellee, but the people in these parts spoke of the traffic as always existing, and evidently were not aware that it must be illicit. The subject appears to call for enquiry. I can see no reason whatever to doubt what was told me. Indeed the price of Salt in the villages through which I have marched has been such as it could not be if the whole supply was Rowannah Salt from Tumlook and Sulkea. At Ramchunderpore, near Munglepore, the price is said to be from 14 to 15 seers per Rupee, or under 3 Rupees per maund.

124. I recommend that enquiries be instituted at Ghuttal, Bishenpore, Ramchunderpore, Munglepore, and Bancoorah, as to the supply of Salt and the places from which it is brought. It must be needless to remark, that such preliminary enquiries should be conducted with the greatest secrecy and circumspection.

SCHOOL.

125. The only School in this District is an English School, established at Purulia in May 1853.

126. It is managed by a Committee composed of three members. They have since May held three meetings, at which all-attended.

127. Though so lately established, the number on the books is 57, and the average attendance is 34.

128. The Secretary writes, that "the demand for education is confined to the middle class of people, who hold it in great estimation. The Zemindars and the rich people think it below, and the poorer classes above their notice." He states also, that "the people generally are averse to contribute to the furtherance of education, thinking themselves entitled to receive from the Government everything necessary about it."

129. It is unfortunate, that such a prejudice against education should exist on the part of the land-holders, for they possess extensive estates, inhabited by very wild and barbarous people, whose ignorance has, on more than one occasion, caused very embarrassing disturbances and

much bloodshed. The spread of cultivation, and intercourse with those who live in more civilized parts, have done some good, and if the Village Purdhans, and people of that class, would allow their children to attend the School, the seed of much eventual good might be sown, but while the Zemindars remain aloof, and are content to know nothing beyond what is to be learned in the jungles, it cannot be expected that those under them will seek instruction.

130. Of the 57 boys in the School, 29 are the sons of persons in the employment of Government, 23 are the sons of Mooktears, 5 are the sons of Merchants.

131. There is not one connected with the land, that is, not one the son of a Zemindar, or middleman of the District. Captain Oakes informs me, that he received an application from many persons, who gain their livelihood by cultivating the land, requesting a reduction in the schooling fees to enable them to send their children. They desired to pay four annas per mensem. Preference being had to the condition of those connected with the land in these parts and their extreme ignorance, I think it is most desirable to endeavour to induce them to give their children instruction, at all events in Bengalee. I recommend that a Bengalee Teacher be appointed to the School and boys admitted to learn Bengalee only, paying four annas each. It is probable that some who come at first to learn Bengalee only, may afterwards join the English School.

132. There are at present three minors, whose estates are held by the Court of Wards. I recommend that the Principal Assistant should be instructed to bring them to Purulia, and place them at the School. The School-master, Baboo Kaleechurn Dutt, is a person of excellent character, and possibly it might be arranged for the wards to reside with him, and under his care. If this be not feasible, lodging for them and their guardians should be provided in the house of some person of respectability at Purulia. The Assistant, in carrying out such a plan, will meet with opposition, especially on the part of the female relatives of the wards, but no remonstrance should be attended to. The children may be sent to see their relatives once a quarter, or if this will not satisfy them, they may themselves take a house at Purulia.

133. The Committee speak in terms of high praise of the diligence of the Master, and certainly the boys have made extraordinary progress, considering that the School has been established a few months only.

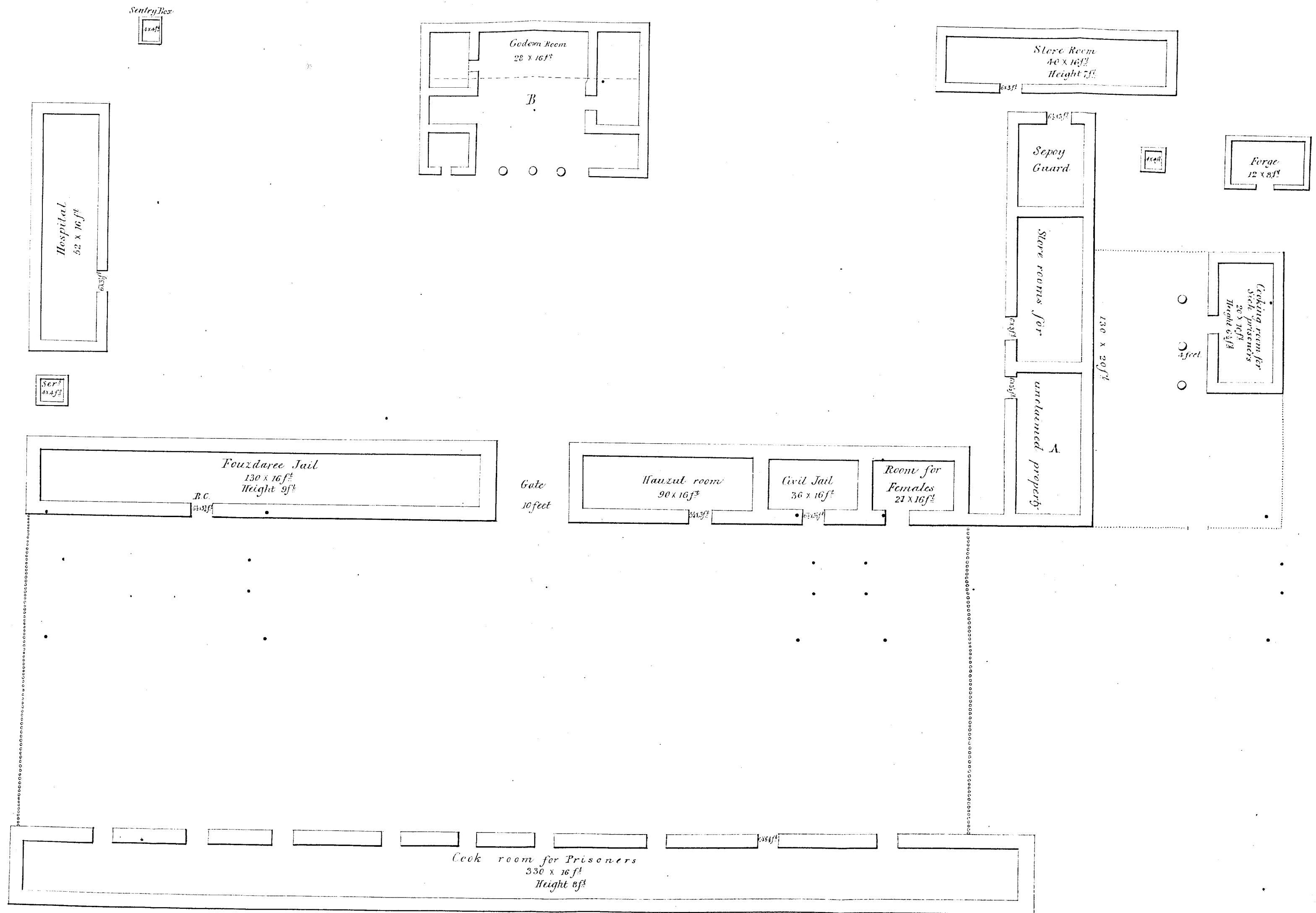
134. The Committee are engaged in making additions to the School-house, there not being sufficient room for the boys, but they are in want of funds, and at such a remote station, with all those who ought to support the Institution prejudiced against it, more than ordinary support and encouragement is called for. I beg to recommend that Rupees 250 towards the completion of the work now in hand be provided by the Government.

135. The School-master represented to me that he is allowed Rupees 100 per mensem only, while 150 Rupees is the remuneration usually allowed.

* * * * *

WEST

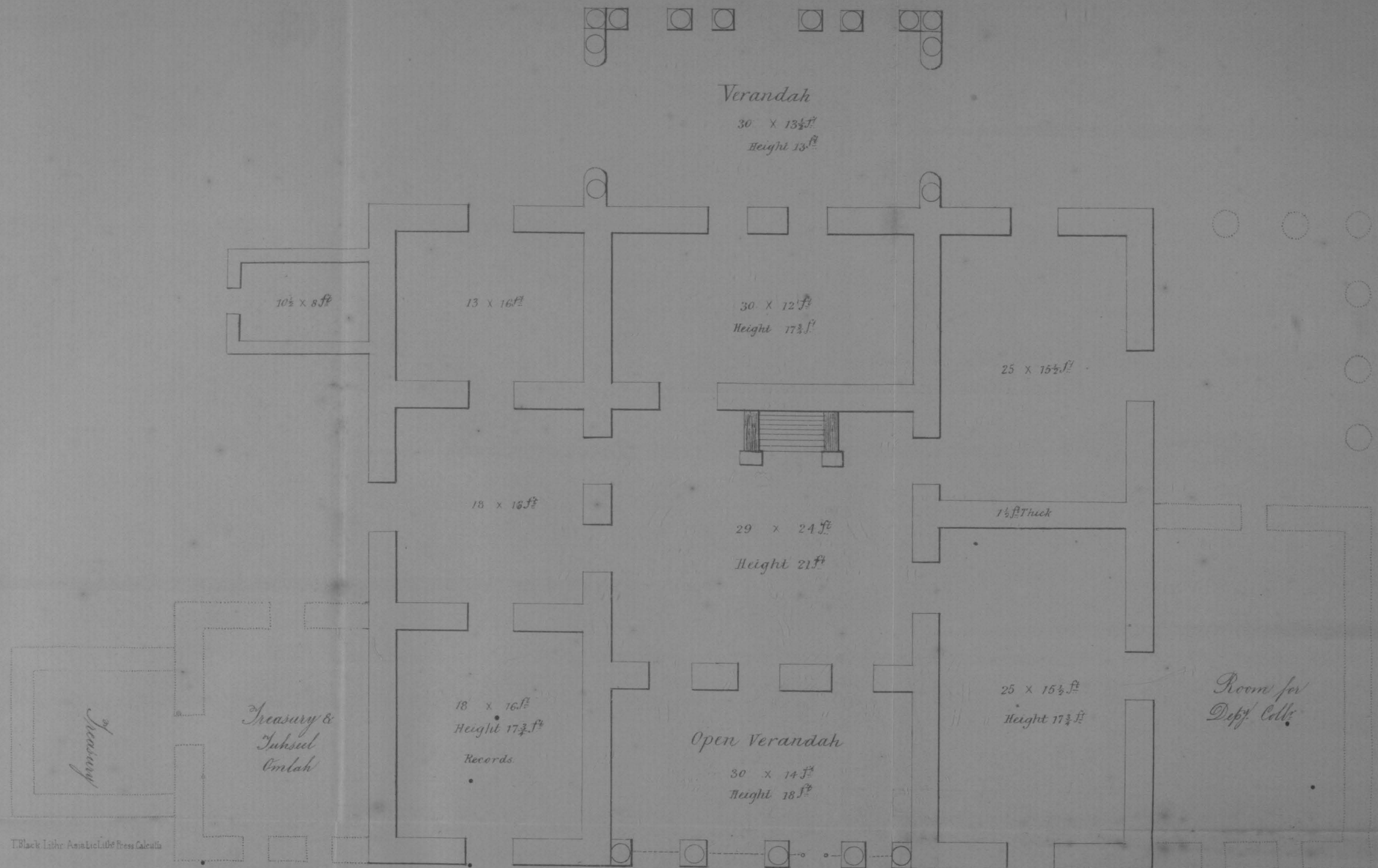
PLAN
OF JAIL.



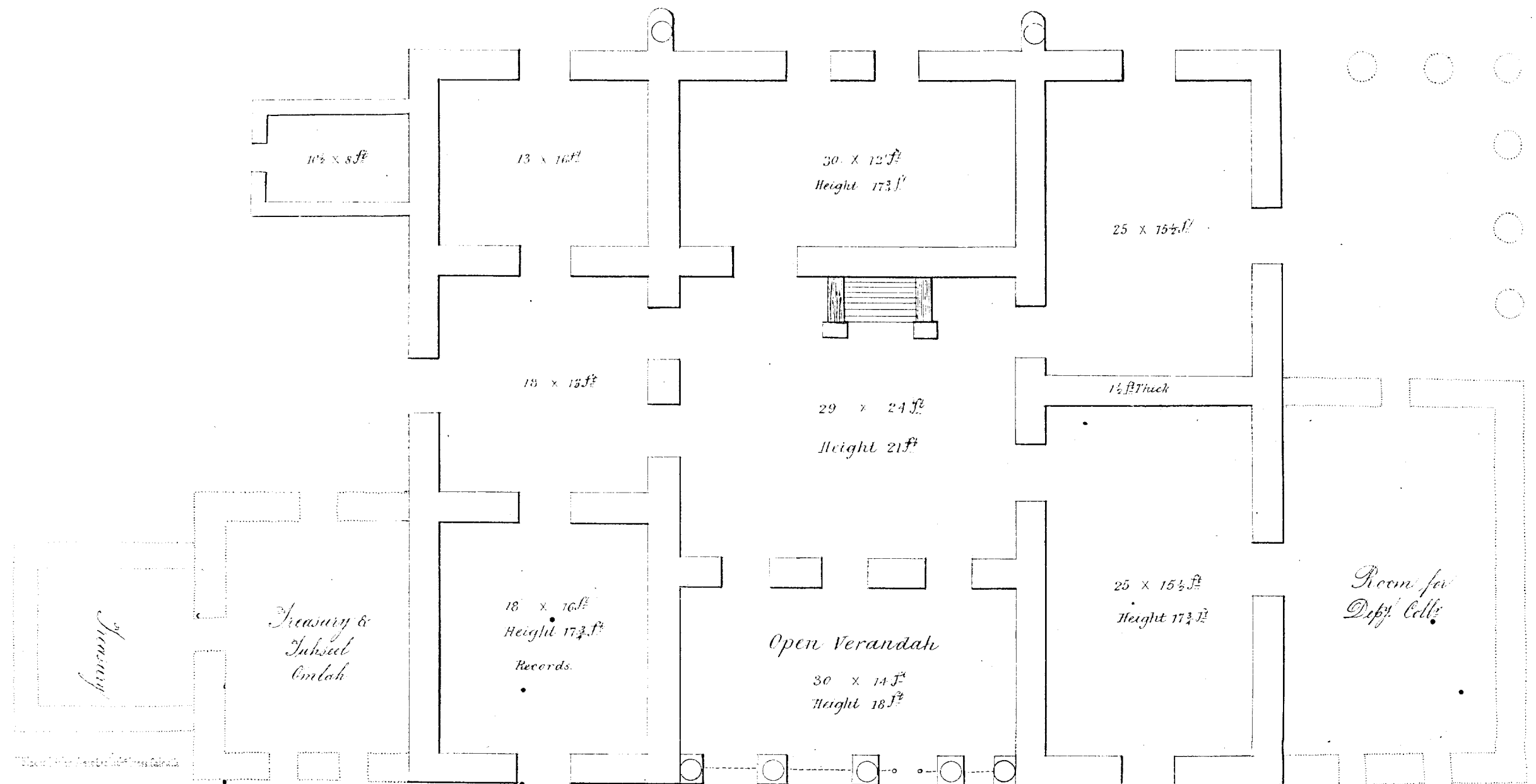
NORTH

EAST

NORTH
PURULIA CUTCHERRY.



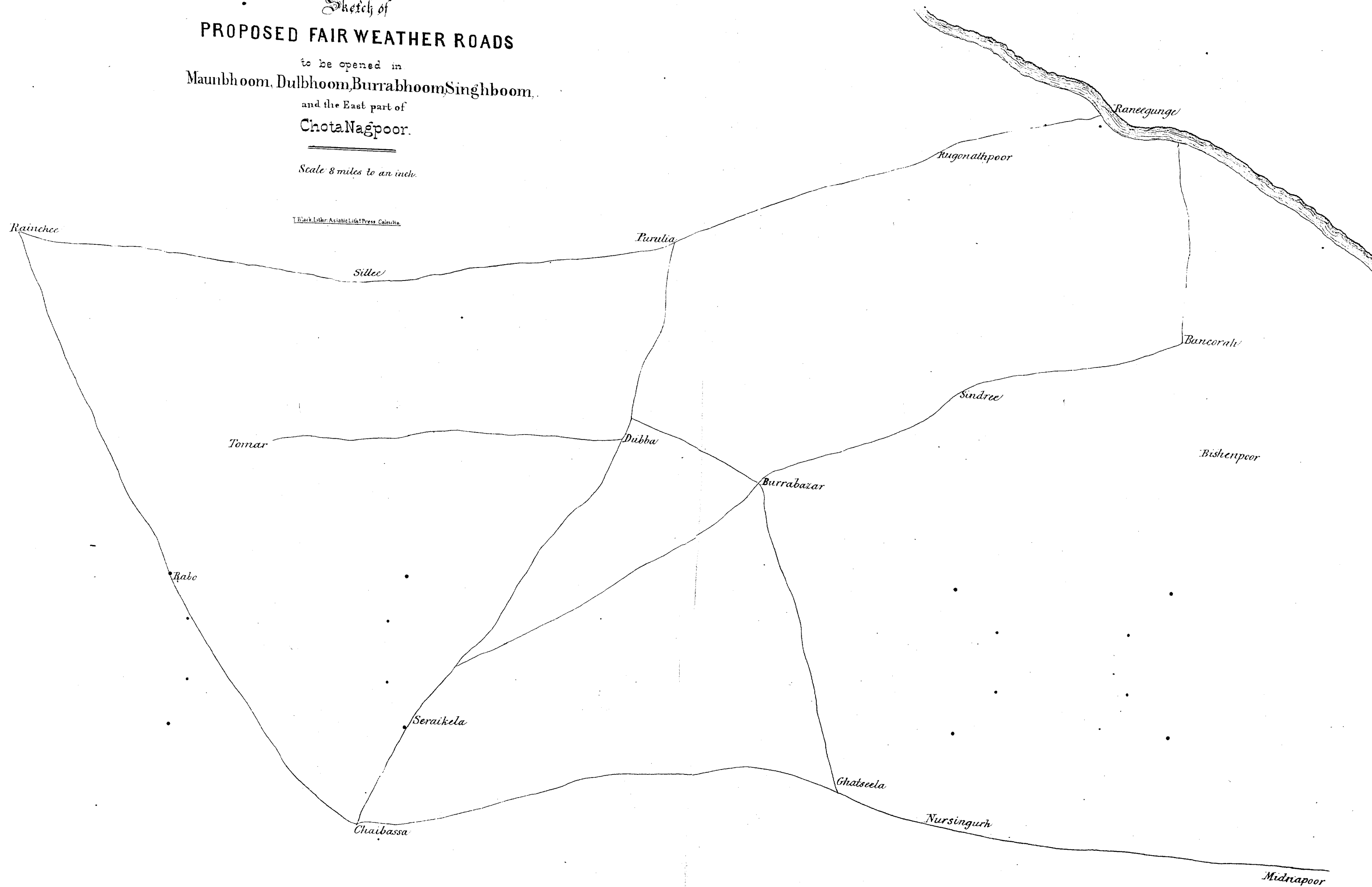
30 x 13½"
Height 13"



Sketch of
PROPOSED FAIR WEATHER ROADS
to be opened in
Maunbhoom, Dulbhoom, Burrabhoom, Singhboom,
and the East part of
Chota Nagpoor.

Scale 8 miles to an inch.

T. Black, Lithr. Asiatic Lithr. Press Calcutta.



INDEX.

	<i>Para.</i>	<i>Page.</i>
General,	1—4	1
Land Revenue,	5—49	2
Abkarree,	50—54	17
Stamps,	55—57	18
Civil Justice,	58—80	19
Criminal Justice,	81—90	23
Police,	91—99	25
Jail,	100—113	27
Public Buildings,	114—116	31
Salt,	117—120	<i>ib.</i>
Roads,	121—127	32
Sillee Fair,	128—131	34
Establishment,	132	35
• Employment of Foreigners in all the Offices,	133—138	36
Schools,	139—142	37

MEMORANDUM
OF
RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT.

PARA. 13. That the Assistant stationed at Koruda should be directed to inquire into the successions which have taken place among the Jagheerdars of Palamow since 1830, with a view to the imposition of a suitable assessment on such Jagheers as are held by parties not direct heirs, and that should Mr. Thompson remain at Koruda, he be directed, when he has become better acquainted with the people, to carry out the Orders of the Government, dated the 25th October 1827.

14. That employment on the establishment be given to the son of Kouree Gouree Churn, hereditary Canongoe of Palamow, in order to secure the assistance of the father, who possesses more information respecting the Pergunnah than any other person now alive.

15. That the head-quarters of the Tehseeldar of Palamow be removed to the head-quarters of the Koruda Assistant.

19. That the Principal Assistant be authorized to make over summary suits, and other business connected with the Revenue, to the Moon-siff, whenever the state of his files may make it desirable.

20. That records belonging to the Office of the Governor General's Agent, in the Assistant's record-rooms, be removed to the Agent's Office.

23. That summary cases for the adjustment of accounts between land-owners and money-lenders and mortgagee be no longer admitted under the Orders of the Government dated 13th August 1834.

36. That, should it be resolved to continue the system authorized on 13th October 1834, it be publicly notified, that landed property or tenures of land will never be sold in execution of decrees, in the Provinces subject to the jurisdiction of the Governor General's Agent, in the South-Western Frontier.

37. That an improved system of attachments be introduced.

38. That whenever an Estate be brought under attachment, it be settled under the provisions of Regulation IX. of 1822, and the interests of all under-holders be ascertained and recorded, and leases given to them for suitable periods.

40. That should sales be introduced, the Government should purchase, whenever an estate can be procured for less than five times its annual rental, *minus* the revenue payable to the Government.

47. That the Governor General's Agent be directed to choose at random a small Pergunnah of Chota Nagpore, and by means of his Assistant, Mr. Spencer, inquire what has become of the original village-holders in that Pergunnah, with a view to test the correctness of the representations, that through the machinations of alien Ticcadars, the whole of the original village Zemindars are being dispossessed.

57. That when Pergunnah Dhulbhoom shall have been settled in the manner proposed, Stamp duties be levied there, as they were before the transfer of the Pergunnah to Chyebassa.

72. That the Principal Sudder Ameen established at Golah be withdrawn, and a Principal Sudder Ameen, with a salary of Rupees 350, be appointed at Chota Nagpore and Hazareebaugh, and that each should exercise the powers of an Assistant under Regulation III. of 1821.

80. That all local Rules should be collected and revised.

89. That the Moonsiff of Kishenpore and Lohardugga be vested with powers of Assistants under Regulation IX. of 1807, to try all cases of petty assault, affray, &c., brought before them.

92. That the Principal Assistant be directed to visit his Thannahs, and endeavour to ascertain the cause of the increased number of dacoities.

98. That careful inquiry be made as to the necessity of longer leaving the Police in the hands of the Zemindars.

99. That the Sudder Thannah of Rainchee be thoroughly repaired.

104. That if the Jail remains where it is, it should be surrounded by a stone wall, to be built by the prisoners. That separate buildings be provided for the women and Civil prisoners, and the Guard-houses better arranged, and that the large wards be divided.

112. That a new kutchia Jail, capable of holding 200 prisoners, be built at Rainchee.

113. That a small Hospital, capable of containing twelve or fourteen persons, be established at Rainchee.

115. That a suitable Office-room be provided for the Deputy Commissioner.

116. That the Treasury be altered and made secure.

121. That fair-weather roads be opened from Chyebassa direct to Rainchee, Chota Nagpore—from Sumbhulpore through Rygurrh and

Oodeypore to Sirgoojah.—from Sirgoojah to Mirzapore—from Chota Nagpore to Sirgoojah—from Chota Nagpore through Chittra to Sheerghoty.

126. That most stringent orders be issued not to cut the trees immediately by the roadside, in clearing roads through forests.

127. That the ditches cut by the side of the new road from Hazareebaugh to Golah, Govindpore and Chota Nagpore, be filled in at intervals, so as to prevent a rush of water, and that where open places have been left for bridges, they be sloped and smoothed.

130. That the Sillee Fair be removed to Chutra, near Chota Nagpore.

137. That a District Officer, when he recommends a foreigner to fill any post under him, shall be bound to certify that he has been unable to find a Native of Nagpore fit for it, and that on vacancies occurring among the Burkundazes, Chuprassies, &c., Coles be invariably appointed, till at least one-half the establishment shall be Coles.

142. That common School-books be supplied gratuitously to Cole Village Schools, whenever as many as twenty can be collected to learn.

(Signed) HENRY RICKETTS.

CHOTA NAGPORE.

GENERAL.

THE Lohardugga Division of Chota Nagpore comprises an area of about 7,346 square miles, and contains 6,78,759 inhabitants. It contains out two estates, Nagpore, the property of the Nagpore Rajah, and Palamow, the property of the Government, purchased at a sale for arrears of revenue in 1813.

2. The chief articles of valuable produce are cotton, sugar, sirso, and sirgoojeea. Cotton and sugar are grown on widely scattered spots. The total area of each may be considerable, but there is no traffic in either worthy of mention. That in cotton, Captain Oakes supposes may be worth Rupees 10,000 per annum. The oil-seeds, sirso, and sirgoojeea are exported in considerable quantities. The crops of oil-seed, which I have observed on ground lately reclaimed, are superior to any I have seen in other parts. There is a small quantity of safflower, but no indigo. It is expected that the roads, which have lately been constructed by Government, to Govindpore, on the Grand Trunk Road, and to Hazareebaugh *viâ* Golah, will tend to increase the traffic.

3. The District also produces coal, iron, and gold; a Mr. Tayler worked the coal mines at Rajhara, in Palamow, for four or five years, but the undertaking was abandoned in 1848. Iron is found in many parts, especially in Pergunnahs Sonepooree, Tooree, Oomachanda, and Dewarkahund. Gold is obtained by washing in the sands of the River Kanchee. Captain Oakes, who has had charge of this Division for five years, reports, that to the best of his knowledge, no inquiries worthy of any trust, have been made into the mineral resources of the District, except the inquiry regarding coal made by the Committee in 1845, and Mr. Williams's investigations regarding iron, conducted in 1851.

4. There are no European land-holders; I have already said there is but one Zemindar paying revenue direct to the Government. There are four land holders, who are styled Rajahs, holding their possessions under the Maha Rajah, and paying to him from Rupees 3,000 to 8,000 per annum.

and several minor holders, who pay from Rupees 100 to 1,000 each. In Palamow, the property of Government, there are persons holding lands yielding from Rupees 1,000 to 10,000, but none of these persons are at all educated. They are capable of reading and writing Hindee. They have none of them been instructed at any Schools; what little information they possess, they have acquired at their own houses.

LAND REVENUE.

5. The land revenue of the Lohardugga district is but Rupees 46,015-2-8, which is paid by two Zemindars :—

Nagpore,	Rupees 15,011	0	0
Palamow,	30,978	2	8

6. Nagpore, the property of the Rajah of Chota Nagpore, is settled in perpetuity at the sum above-mentioned. The rents of the Rajah are said not to exceed a lakh of Rupees; all the Zemindars under him enjoy considerable profits. This estate is supposed to be above a hundred miles long, and to contain between 4 and 5,000 square miles. In the neighbourhood of Rainchee, and for many miles round, it is open and well cultivated. To the South, there are still heavy jungles.

7. Palamow was bought by the Government in 1813. The Pergunnah was assessed at the perpetual settlement with a jumma of Rupees 12,000, and now pays the jumma above-mentioned, Rupees 30,978-2-8. The whole is held by village proprietors or farmers: there is no hushabood management. The Governor General's Agent having dated in his Report for 1851-52, that the state of Palamow was not satisfactory, and that it was so distant from Rainchee, it would not be efficiently managed by the Principal Assistant there stationed, a Sub-division was created, chiefly with a view to the improved management of this estate, which the Government remarked, should be an example to all the Zemindars of the Agency.

8. This Pergunnah attracted much notice, and was the subject of a great deal of correspondence twenty-five years ago. It was finally determined, that the whole should be measured, with a view to a regular settlement under the provisions of Regulation VII. of 1822.

9. The Government, in the Orders dated the 25th October 1827, said that the settlement was to embrace "the definition and adjustment of the public demand on tenures which it has been determined to maintain as fiefs, to be held in *capite* of Government, the composition

"of each of the tenures falling under the above description, with the deeds by which they were originally constituted with a view to redemption, and annexation to the public rental of all lands held in excess of the grants in each instance, and investigation of the circumstances and state of property in each village of the Khalsa lands." The Jagheerdars and Ijardars were to be called upon to furnish lists of their possessions, with a view to adjustment. The Settlement Officer was to subject these documents to examination by the Canongoes or other local Officers of experience, and, after taking such other measures as might be available for ascertaining that the lands and mouzahs stated under each head were actually in the Jagheerdar's possession at the sale and purchase by Government, a new pottah or grant was at once to be given, subject to the final sanction of the Government. As it was agreed on all hands, that the Jagheers were not alienable, but lapsed on default of heirs, it was directed that a stipulation to that effect should be introduced in the new pottahs. The measurement of the Khalsa lands was completed in 1830, they were then leased for various periods, and, in 1839-40, leases for twenty years were granted to farmers, which will expire in 1858-59. In conformity with the orders, the Jagheerdars and Ijardars, in 1830, filed a list of their lands and their sunnuds; but from that time to this nothing has been done, no inquiries in conformity with the orders have been made, no new pottahs have been granted, the careful instructions respecting successions have been entirely overlooked, and claimants have been allowed to succeed without question.

10. Parties with whom I have conversed say that execution of the Orders of the 25th October 1827 would increase the rental of Palamow Rupees 20,000 per annum. Others say, that this is an exaggerated estimate, and I believe it is greatly exaggerated, though there is no doubt that many are in the possession of lands to which they have no right whatever, and some are holding lands at a mere quit rent, who ought to pay full rental.

11. It would appear, that the death of Mr. Prinsep, who was entrusted with the settlement of Palamow, first caused interruption of the proceedings, and the disturbances of 1832 and 1833 having extended to that Pergunnah, the authorities of the time, after quiet had been restored, either had not time to complete the settlement, or it was not thought advisable then to prosecute the investigation; and all those who have

since held office have contented themselves with collecting the revenue payable by the farmers of the Khalsa villages.

12. An Officer has now been placed at Koruda, with the immediate management of Palamow, Oodeypoor, and Sirgoojah. By his means the Orders of 1827, as regards the Jagheerdaree and Ijardaree lands, ought to be carried into execution, but Captain W. Oakes, who has had charge of the Lohardugga Division for five years, is unwilling to disturb the existing state of things, at all events not till the expiration of the existing settlement of the Khalsa lands in 1858-59.

13. There can be no doubt that it is very desirable to avoid proceedings that may possibly lead to discontent and disturbance, but I must say, that it appears to me there has been in this Agency a great deal too much fear of resistance. The first question never appears to be, as to the propriety of a measure, but whether those whom it may concern will readily submit to it. I would instruct the Assistant at Koonda to inquire into the successions which have taken place since 1830, and where he finds parties in possession without any right, to hold a summary enquiry into the proceeds of the Jagheer, and impose a suitable assessment. Should Mr. Thompson stay there, when he shall have had some experience in the Pergunnah and become acquainted with the people, I would either vest him with the full powers of Regulation VII. of 1822, and direct him to carry out the Orders of October 1827, or by virtue of the powers vested in the Executive by Regulation XIII. of 1833, furnish him with special instructions for his guidance. I cannot suppose it likely, that any disturbance will ensue. It is true, that formerly disturbances in these parts were a common occurrence, but to the best of my recollection, they never were caused by the Government enforcing an undoubted right by straightforward and lawful means.

14. The hereditary Canongoe of the Pergunnah, Kouree Gouree Churn, is still in existence, and could afford a great deal of information respecting the land-holders of all classes, and though I would by no means counsel the immediate acceptance as correct of all the information he might afford, I would give employment to his son on the establishment of the Assistant at Koruda, and by so doing secure the assistance of the Canongoe, who apparently is fully acquainted with all the circumstances of all classes connected with the Pergunnah, while no one else has any information whatever respecting any portion of it except the Khalsa lands.

15. As the Tehseeldar of Palamow has no Khas Tehseel, I think it would be advisable to station him at the head-quarters of the Assistant at Koruda. He and the Officers of his establishment may be of great use to the Assistant, and as his Office will be so near, it will be no great inconvenience to the Ijardars and Farmers to pay them revenue at Koruda, instead of at Leshbegunge, the present head-quarters of the Tehseeldar.

16. There are no cases under Regulations XVII. of 1793 and V. of 1812 in this District. There never has been any prohibition against attachments, but the Law is unknown here.

17. It has been customary for all persons having rent to pay, if the landlord, for any reason, objected to receive it, to deposit their rent in the Collector's Office, there to remain, till the party to whom it should have been paid, applied for it.

18. It is supposed that this privilege, allowed to all under-tenants of every description, has the effect of preventing unauthorized and extortionate demands from being made, and acts as a great protection to all the inferior classes. As I know that the propriety of allowing such deposits has often been mooted in Regulation Provinces, it is interesting to learn that the practice is regarded as entirely successful here.

19. Such of the Registers prescribed by the Board of Revenue, as are suitable to the constitution of the Office, are kept up. In Register No. 2, in which are recorded all proceedings from other Offices, urzies, &c., received, I found above 4,000 entries. This tells of a good deal of business in the Revenue Department of the Office. A Return received from the Principal Assistant shows 3,041 cases of all sorts in three years, being an average of 1,013 per annum, of which 963 were summary suits, giving an average of 321. Hitherto the whole business of the Collector's Office has devolved on the Principal Assistant. The Assistant stationed at Koruda will now of course dispose of all summary suits connected with that Pergunnah, and I would give the Principal Assistant authority to make over summary suits, or any other business connected with the Revenue Department, to the Moonsiff, whenever the state of his own files made the transfer desirable.

20. I found records belonging to the Agent's Office in the record-rooms of the Principal Assistant's Office. As there is ample room in the Agent's house, these papers should all now be removed to the Office to which they belong.

21. In reporting on the Purulia Division, I entered at some length into the subject of attached estates. In this Division, I find fifteen under attachment, the annual rental of which is Rupees 15,219-10-0, and the sum for the liquidation of which they were brought under the attachment Rupees 1,02,063-0-7.

22. Nos. 1 to 9 are attached under the Orders of the 13th October 1834, or rather under the interpretation put upon those Orders. The circumstances under which they were attached, the Principal Assistant reports to have been as follows:—"The owners finding themselves involved to such an extent, that they could not pay their debts, applied for a settlement with their creditors, under the provisions of the letter above-mentioned; and the sanction of the Agent having been granted, the estates have been attached for the benefit of the creditors. The sanction of the Agent may be considered as equivalent to an order that the estates shall not be sold."

The remaining six estates have been attached by decree-holders. There is no order of the Agent forbidding the sale of these estates. They have been brought under attachment in execution of the decrees against the proprietors as a matter of course, and Captain Oakes reports, that "as far as he has been able to ascertain, no sale of lands has ever taken place in this District in satisfaction of a decree of Court, and that such a thing never having been heard of, parties naturally suppose that an estate cannot be sold." Captain Oakes concludes by saying, that though he can see no political reason why any one estate should not be sold, he cannot say that the sudden introduction of an indiscriminate sale of lands in execution of decrees would not be attended with risk; at the same time he is of opinion that to sell some and exempt others, would not be expedient.

23. Whatever may be resolved respecting the sale of lands in satisfaction of decrees of the Civil Courts, I think cases such as those under which the first nine mehals were brought under attachment should be admitted no longer. It certainly never was intended by the Orders of the 13th October 1834, that every owner of land, who did not quite approve of his creditor's account, and anticipated a suit in Court, should forestal the lender and apply to the Courts for what is called in this part of the world an equitable adjustment of accounts, but which really is an adjustment for the benefit of the land-owner. It appears to me high time, that a system which is based on the assumption, that all lender

must necessarily be infamous extortioners, and all borrowers the innocent and ignorant victims of the lenders, should cease to have existence. It is true interest charges are high, but as the lenders by trade can realize, without any increased risk, a very high rate of profit, I cannot call that an equitable adjustment, which, when the borrower's imprudences have brought him into difficulties, sets at naught the engagements between the parties, and awards to the lender a rate of interest, not regulated by the rate of interest usually current and the returns of capital vested in other speculations, but a rate suitable to transactions, where borrowers are less unprincipled and accumulations of capital less rare. I recommend that no more such suits be admitted to be tried summarily; that encumbered Zemindars be left to make such arrangements as they can with their creditors, without the intervention of the Courts, except on the institution of a regular suit by one of the parties; and that a suit, by whichever party instituted should be decided on its merits, without any reference to the question, whether one of the parties is a land-owner or not. The mistaken interpretation of the Orders of the 13th October 1834, which the Orders of the 17th July 1851 so completely exposed, is still acted upon, and a race of spendthrift Zemindars, who as a body are opposed to all improvements of all sorts, and without a single claim to exemption from the usual consequences of neglecting prudence and thrift, are still protected from the consequences of their follies to the injury of their creditors and the country.

24. Whether, when a civil suit brought in the usual form and decided in the usual manner shall terminate against a land-holder, his land should be sold in execution, is a question not, I think, so easily disposed of as that of the propriety of stopping inequitable and partial adjustments of account. The correspondence books show, that the system has not been uniformly approved by the authorities, but no one is willing to undertake the responsibility of counselling a change.

25. On the 16th August 1847, the Governor General's Agent wrote thus to the Deputy Commissioner:—"It is a subject of such very serious importance, this sale of landed property, that I think, only under the order of the head of the Office, should such be sanctioned. Left to themselves, the limit could not be defined at which an Assistant might stop—he might be an old and experienced one, or quite the reverse, therefore it is best as Major Wilkinson arranged it." Colonel Ouseley would allow no sale of land.

26. In his letter of the 26th August 1851, Colonel Ouseley's successor Mr. Crawford, expressed the same sentiments. Only a month after the receipt of the Orders of the 17th July 1851, he wrote to the Deputy Commissioner:—"Whether it was the intention of the Government, that such a practice should spring from the operation of the special Rules authorized in their Secretary's letter of the 13th October 1834, cannot now be well ascertained. I do not perceive how the spirit of these Rules could be observed, or the object of them gained, unless the Agent exercised a general controlling authority in regard to all such sales." On the 8th of November, the Agent again said, in reply to a letter from the Deputy Commissioner:—"I see no reason to change the opinion expressed in my letter dated 26th August, that it is both necessary and unobjectionable that the Agent should exercise a controlling authority in regard to all official sales of land in this District. Again, the Agent, notwithstanding the expressed opinion of the Government, that the Orders of the 13th October 1834 were not to be applied excepting in cases of urgency, beyond the case of the Tickaits of Kurukdea, for which they were especially provided, extended the Orders to all lands within the Agency.

27. On the 17th June 1852, the Agent told the Deputy Commissioner, that of eighteen cases of attachment in Lohardugga, with one exception, there was no reason why all should not be sold in the ordinary course of execution of decree. He admitted, that there being no particular reason, in seventeen out of eighteen cases, why the lands should not be sold, execution should follow in ordinary course, but he did not direct that sale should take place.

28. In a letter dated 20th September 1852, the Agent brought the subject to the notice of the Government. He informed the Government, that although lands had frequently been alienated by private sales in Chota Nagpore, none had ever been sold in execution of decrees; that he was aware of no reason why the anomaly in the condition of landed property should be maintained; that on the contrary many arguments occurred to him in favor of the introduction of a new system. The Agent concluded by recommending, that those who would furnish valid security to liquidate all demands within a reasonable time, should be left in possession of their estates, otherwise *that stringent legal procedure should be enforced*. What Mr. Crawford meant by stringent legal procedure, if he did not mean a sale, it is difficult to say, for at-

attachments were already common, and he distinctly recommended imprisonment of the person of defaulters in another part of his letter. If by "stringent legal procedure" he did mean sale, it would have been plainer and shorter to say so. The Orders dated 16th December 1852 left it to the Agent to deal with the attached estates at his discretion, and to order the apprehension and imprisonment of the debtors if he thought fit.

29. The Agent, in his instructions to the Assistant, dated the 13th April 1853, directed him to call upon the insolvent proprietors of the estates which had been brought under attachment without any sufficient authority for exemption from sale, to furnish security to liquidate their debts, and in future, on a Civil Court directing execution against an estate, to report for orders, whether recourse should be had to sale, or not.

30. On the 26th October 1853, the Assistant reported that all the owners of the estates attached in execution of decrees of Court had failed to furnish the security required, and at the same time he represented that "there were two general objections to selling lands in Chota Nagpore, the *first* is, that it does not appear that since the District came into the possession of Government, land has ever in one solitary case been sold in execution of a decree; *secondly*, that it would be difficult to draw a satisfactory line of demarcation as to what parties shall be exempted from a sale of their lands, and with respect to what parties a more rigorous course should be pursued." Orders were issued for the imprisonment of certain debtors and the attachment and sale of their personal property, but orders for the sale of their lands were withheld!

31. No real progress has been made towards adjustment of the question. The authorities feel, that while the claims of creditors holding decrees of Court are not satisfied, it cannot be right that the debtors should continue to hold their landed estates. So long ago as 1843 Orders of Government said—"You should be careful yourself, and should warn your subordinates not to let these rude Zemindars become impressed with the idea, that they will be supported by the Courts in refusing payment of just demands, which their own perverseness may have kept unliquidated for a length of time." But this warning has been disregarded, and these rude Zemindars do in fact defy their creditors, the authorities all fearing to incur the responsibility of a sale.

32. Major Hannington, the Deputy Commissioner, who has had some seventeen or eighteen years' experience in Chota Nagpore, writes—"At the present time the continuance of an unsound system has brought an accumulation of debt on the large estates, and were sales to be enforced, these estates would pass into new hands, not without risk of considerable local disturbance. Here of course the question occurs—How long shall an unsound system be allowed to continue? I believe, that by this system, not one land-holder has been relieved from his debts, or is to any useful extent put in a better position than he held before. I would propose the cautious introduction of sales under decrees. With our past experience, there would be very little risk of the Civil Courts venturing on dangerous ground. The assent of the Governor General's Agent should always be required, and some discretion should be allowed to the Courts in effecting amicable settlements between the debtor and creditor without compelling sale."

33. This comes from Major Hannington, the Officer of longest experience in the Province, and strongly opposed to the system of attachments: he would not allow a sale without the assent of the Governor General's Agent, and would give the Court's discretion to avoid sales.

34. It appears to me that the system existing is the most mischievous that could be followed; that any change would be for the better. It is enough to say, that it is uncertain, as being uncertain it must be bad. If it was resolved, either that estates should be sold in execution of decrees, or that they should not be sold, lenders and borrowers would understand their position, and regulate their transactions accordingly. Under the existing custom, a land-owner may borrow with the understanding that his estate is not protected from sale, and when the lender shows inclination to proceed to extremities, he has but to cause hints to be conveyed to the authorities that a sale could not be enforced without risking the peace of the country; and he may defy the creditor and the Courts: the Agent will not allow a sale.

35. There are other weighty objections to the system. There is not even an attempt to disguise the truth. It is not said, that it is desirable to maintain the old Zemindar, because he is a good subject, manages his estates well, and is a friend to his ryots: on the contrary, it is declared, that it is advisable to protect the Zemindar, because he is a bad subject—because it is supposed that should the authorities endeavour

to do justice by his creditor, he is prepared to stir up his ignorant followers and cultivators to resistance—in short, that he is prepared to rebel rather than pay, and therefore it must be permitted to him not to pay. Further, the effect is to place all the District authorities in a most undignified, and therefore most harmful position. On a sale being pressed by a decree-holding creditor, the Principal Assistant in charge of the District has to inquire and report, whether, in his opinion, the defendant is so bad a subject that he is worthy of the protection of the Court. He has to seek information, whether the inhabitants are ignorant and likely to be misled—whether the influence of the Zemindar over them is considerable and likely to be exercised for mischievous purposes. Should the results of the inquiry affirm all these positions, it is the business of the District Officer to propose that, to use the phraseology of the Division, "the estate should receive the protection of the Agent's Office." Should the inquiry show that the Zemindar has always been, and is, a well-disposed subject, that his ryots are not much under his influence, and that what influence he does possess, he never would exert to their injury in order to obtain any selfish end, the District Officer must report that there is nothing to prevent the Law from taking its course. The effect of all this cannot but be bad, it must bring the Courts and the Officers who preside in them into contempt, and it must incline these Zemindars to have a bad character rather than a good one.

36. That change is desirable, must be admitted. I see that all the existing authorities are unwilling to take upon themselves the responsibility of proposing the sale of land in execution of decrees, though they fairly see the mischief of the existing system: I am unwilling to propose a change, but it is unquestionable, I think, that a positive prohibition of all sales, under any circumstances, would be preferable to the existing uncertainty. If it was declared that no landed property of any sort should be held answerable for the debts of the proprietors, all dealings would be conducted with reference to the immunity declared.

37. Should such be the resolve, as a matter of course all landed tenures in execution of decrees of Court would be brought under attachment, and in such case I would, by means of an improved system of attachment, remedy, as far as possible, the disadvantages consequent on the prohibition of sales. Major Hannington describes an attachment thus—"By one means or other, the rents of the estate are imperfectly

“ collected, and the creditors allowed shares in proportion to their claims
 “ In this transaction no one has reason to be satisfied. The landlord may
 “ complain that his rents are wastefully collected ; the creditor may com-
 “ plain that he gets no more, and gets it tardily ; the District Officer may
 “ complain that the work is more than he has means to accomplish, and
 “ the ryot may complain that he is fleeced.”

This is a picture drawn from experience. Major Hannington, to show how the system is abused, instances the following case. The estate of the Rajah of Kendy is under attachment for the benefit of his creditors. The property consists of 139 villages, which are disposed of as follows :—

Granted in alms gift,	18½
Sold (by private sale,)	44
Sold by auction,	5
Held by relatives of Rajah,	44½
Mortgaged,	16
	—
	128
Under attachment for the satisfaction (or dissatisfaction) of the creditors,	11
	—
	139

On inquiry it appears, that the amount of the liabilities of the Rajah, on account of decrees actually in execution remaining unrealized, is Rupees 16,582-7-1 ; a further decree has lately been passed for Rupees 4,000, and the Principal Assistant estimates, that his remaining debts may be about Rupees 10,000 : the gross liabilities therefore are about Rupees 30,000, and the amount proceeds of the attached villages is Rupees 1,119-7-1 : after deducting Rupees 399 annually allowed the Rajah, Rupees 719 remains for his creditors, which will liquidate the debts in forty years. During all this time, the management of the property will fall on the Revenue Officers of the Government.

38. Whenever an estate shall be brought under attachment, I would, at the expense of the owner, make a settlement of the land under the provisions of Regulation VII. of 1822, measuring it if necessary, and funds are available, and then give all the under-holders pottahs for a suitable period, with reference to the nature of the interest held, which pottahs I would cause to be respected in all the Courts ; of course in conducting these proceedings, the imposition of increased rents, or any other cause for creating discontent will be carefully avoided. At first

there may be some uneasiness ; it is always supposed that a measurement cannot be made from any other motive than a desire to impose increased rent ; but when two or three attached estates shall have been measured and assessed, and the under-holders find themselves secured in their holdings for considerable periods at moderate rates, and all ubwabs, maujuns, &c., relinquished, they will no longer object. Ignorant people may be opposed to measures undertaken for their good so long as they do not understand them, but when the advantages are clearly seen and acknowledged, they will not oppose them. The advantages I desire to obtain by the settlement are the prevention of fraudulent alienations on the part of the Zemindar with a view to cheat his creditors, the establishment of all under-holders in their rights, and the diffusion of confidence leading to the improvement of the estate, the independence of the cultivators, which in time must have the effect of lessening the influence of the Zemindar amongst them, which influence being always used for bad purposes and never for good, it is most desirable to decrease the punctual and easy collection of the revenue.

39. The management of these estates should of course receive the constant attention of the Governor General's Agent, and the Board of Revenue should be furnished with Annual Returns showing the results, as they are with Annual Returns of attached estates in the Regulation Provinces.

40. Should it be considered advisable to rule, that in execution of decrees of the Civil Courts, land shall be sold in the Districts of this Division as elsewhere, in that case I would recommend, that any estate* that may be put up should be bought by the Government, if procurable at any thing less than five times the estimated rental less the Government jumma. There will always be less likelihood of disturbances when Government shall purchase, indeed I see no more reason why disturbances should be anticipated on Government taking possession as purchaser any more than on Government taking possession in pursuance of an attachment, provided the attachment be *bonâ fide*, not, as is sometimes now the case, nominal. I would not retain estates so purchased, but having made a settlement in the manner proposed for attached estates, when the influence of the former Zemindar shall have been effectually destroyed, I would again offer such estates to public competition, assessed at a suitable jumma for fifty years.

* That is, a mehal paying direct to the Government.

41. But I desire to withhold any positive opinion as to sales in execution of decrees, till I shall have visited the remaining District of the Agency, Hazareebaugh. The system originated in a desire to protect from sale Ghatwalee Mehals of Pergunnah Kurrukdea in that District, and probably I may there find that which shall greatly assist decision, whether the system shall be abrogated or maintained.

42. Though there was no complaint preferred to me, there seems reason to apprehend, that the people of the District, the Coles, suffer much injustice at the hands of the Foreign middlemen introduced by the Rajah, their Zemindar. Dr. Davidson, who was a person of much intelligence, and studied the condition of the Province with much attention writing in 1839, says,—“ In point of fact, there was no regular Police or administration of Justice in Nagpore till the present Agency was established in 1834; that they (the Coles) are frequently imposed on by their land-holders is not for want of comprehension, but that they have been so long completely left to their mercies, and so entirely deprived of any protection from them, that it is difficult for them to make up their minds to resist.” Major Hannyngton now tells me that—“ In Chota Nagpore the Bhooi has lands which exist in every village, have been exposed to the rapacity of the middlemen, aliens who are hated by the people, and who, to obtain these lands, spare no species of force or fraud—against these our Courts do not afford any facile remedy, and the day may not be distant when the people, goaded beyond endurance, may take the law into their own hands.

“ To protect these under-tenures is therefore not only as a duty important, but it is also essential to the permanent tranquillity of the country. For this end, it would be necessary to ascertain what the tenures chiefly are, and how far they should be recognized: this being done, and the result made known by authority, the Courts would do the rest: the inquiries would demand some time and care and caution, but it is practicable, and in the end would requite any labour that might be bestowed on it.”

43. This evidence from a very intelligent Officer, who has been many years in the Province, appears to me to be deserving of much attention. I have shown in another place, that alien Omlah monopolize all the public Offices; that though Dr. Davidson declares that “ the Coles are an intelligent people, as much, if not more so, than the laboring class of any part of India which I have visited,” they have been,

with very few exceptions, regarded by the authorities as unfit to run with a message or carry a spear. With alien farmers, alien Omlah, and alien subordinates in all Departments over them, doubtless the Coles must have much to endure.

44. There is nothing authoritative to which the Courts can look for guidance in cases of the nature of those alluded to by Major Hannyngton in Chota Nagpore: each Officer takes his own view of a case, consequently it is said that very opposite decisions may be found. It appears to be Major Hannyngton's wish, that the nature of all classes of middle tenures should be inquired into and recorded, and the rights of those whose ancestors cleared the lands so defined, that the Courts should have no difficulty in protecting them against the encroachments of the Zemindar and his Ticcadars or alien farmers.

45. Major Hannyngton says, that “ the mischief done in Manbhoom is irreparable, that all improvement has utterly ceased, the ancient groves are fast disappearing, and the wastes remain unreclaimed, for no one will undertake labour, the fruits of which would assuredly be wrested from him.”

46. I have already proposed, that on an estate being attached, a complete settlement of it should be made under Regulation VII. of 1822, a component part of which settlement would of course be ascertainment and record of the rights of all classes connected with the land: by this means, in the course of time, the rights of all then in possession will be ascertained, but some may lose their tenures before such attachment shall occur. Immediate settlement under Regulation VII. of 1822, the Zemindar remaining in possession, might be of some avail, but it cannot be concealed that it must be a hopeless contest between a middleman of any degree and a Zemindar in charge of the Police. However carefully his rights may have been ascertained and recorded, if the Zemindar Darogah is resolved he shall go, he must go; his ruin may be effected in a hundred ways, and if he resist, will be effected, though the Officer in charge of the District be his friend.

47. It is not probable that the Chota Nagpore estate will come under attachment; there will be no opportunity therefore of making a settlement of the mehal while in the predicament. If any thing is to be done for the protection of the occupants of the soil, it must be by means of a Pergunnah-warree investigation and record of rights, the Rajah remaining in possession as usual. To such a proceeding, among other objections, there is the in-

superable objection of expense: such an investigation could only be conducted by an establishment entertained for the purpose, and would occupy a large establishment many years. Though it is impossible to discredit the evidence of men who have seen so much of the Chota Nagpore people and institutions as Dr. Davidson and Major Hannington, for they cannot have been altogether deceived, I have not before me any such evidence of the necessity of extraordinary interposition for the protection of the indigenous occupants as would warrant my recommending such an undertaking as the immediate extension of the provisions of Regulation VII. of 1822 to the whole of the Chota Nagpore Zemindary, composing full two-thirds of the Lohardugga district, but I would not, on the other hand, discountenance all inquiry. It is said to be useless to examine the files with a view to ascertain whether there have been any contests between the alien Ticcadars and the indigenous tenantry, inasmuch as the tenantry, seeing that contest was hopeless, have for the most part yielded the field without a struggle; that the class of indigenous village Zemindars is gradually, or rather quickly, disappearing in that character, though still existing as discontented ryots brooding over their wrongs; and that the real truth can be ascertained only by careful local inquiry. Thus beginning on a small scale, in a contracted circle, I would be guided by the result. I recommend, that the Governor General's Agent be directed to select, at random, a small Pergunnah of Chota Nagpore, comprising fifty or sixty-three villages, and to direct his Assistant, Mr. Spencer, to ascertain, by careful inquiry, what has become of the original village-holders of every village in that Pergunnah—whether they are still in possession—if not, how, and when they were dispossessed, and what has become of them. The inquiry should be made with the least possible parade. A list of the villages in the Pergunnah should be obtained, and then three or four of the head-men of each quietly sent for and examined as to the fate of the party who possessed it in 1834. If he is still in possession, inquiry as regards that village might cease—if out of possession, then all the circumstances connected with his dispossession must be most carefully traced, and his present condition and means of livelihood ascertained.

48. Of course ultimate measures must depend on the results of the investigation. Should it be proved, that most of the original holders are still in possession, and that those ousted rightfully suffered the consequence of their own imprudence or neglect, of course no further proceedings will be needful: on the other hand, should it appear that intrigues

and the rapacious dealings of the alien Ticcadars are, as is represented, fast reducing all the original holders of villages to holders of the plough, it will become matter for consideration by what measures such dealings and the probable consequences may be averted.

49. Mr. Allen, the Officer at present occupying the post of Governor General's Agent, is so prudent, that I have no fears of any evil consequences from such an inquiry in his hands, but great prudence and circumspection will be necessary—not one word should be uttered as to the object of the inquiry, and if all the information necessary can be procured, as it were incidentally, by setting on foot an inquiry as to prices and wages on any other subject of general interest, so much the better. On the other hand, on the inquiry being concluded, it would be well, whatever the result, that the Rajah and his subordinate Zemindars should thoroughly understand its intention, and from it the resolve of the Government, that the peace of the country shall not be risked by the dealings of alien Ticcadars.

ABKARREE.

50. The Abkarree Department has never been under an Abkarree Commissioner, and on the whole I consider its condition very satisfactory. Between 1842-43 and 1852-53 the revenue has increased from Rupees 23,152-14-7 to Rupees 36,323-9-6, and in 1851-52 it was as high as Rupees 42,243-12-6. The falling off from Rupees 42,243 to Rupees 36,323 in 1852-53 is attributed by the Assistant to a short crop in Pergunnah Palamow and the enhanced price of mowhooa, of which there was a scanty supply. During that year, the Assistant visited Palamow, and he can confidently affirm that the falling off was the consequence of short produce.

51. There are in the District 336 shops, which pay in the aggregate Rupees 116-2-9 per day. As a general rule, licenses are granted to the highest bidders, but where the tax has been as high as Rupees 100, the Assistant exercises his discretion in rejecting an offer, unless it approximates that sum.

52. The settlement is made mostly by Pergunnahs and in lots consisting of two or more villages, but some lots embrace one village only.

53. It is sometimes necessary to sell the property of defaulters, but lands have never been sold for the realization of Abkarree balances.

The Orders of the 13th October 1834 certainly never were intended to protect from sale the lands of a defaulting Abkar and his surety.

54. I can find no reason for dissatisfaction with the state of the Abkarree Revenue in this District, though the Returns appear small, with reference to the habits of the Dangah Cole population, who all indulge in intoxicating liquors. For the most part, they drink a sort of beer made from rice and other ingredients, which is not taxed. It is difficult to assign any reason for excluding Hurreea, while Tarree is subject to taxation; but as I know the local authorities would all strenuously oppose the imposition of a duty on this favorite beverage of the Coles, and there might be very great difficulties in some localities in carrying out such a scheme, I am content to leave the Hurreea untaxed.

STAMPS.

55. The Stamp revenue is gradually increasing. The sales were—

1848-49,	9,346	0	0
1849-50,	10,777	13	0
1850-51,	13,317	8	0
1851-52,	13,715	4	0
1852-53,	15,384	2	0

56. Having learned that the Stamp duty was not levied at the same rate in the three Divisions of Hazareebaugh, Lohardugga and Manbhoom, I called for information on the subject from the Governor General's Agent, when it appeared, that on the 22nd October 1834, the Governor General's Agent prescribed, for the observance of Officers in charge of the Districts, a scale of duties differing from the scale of Regulation X. of 1829.

In the District of Lohardugga and Manbhoom, the Agent's orders have been superseded; and Stamp duty is levied strictly in conformity with the provisions of Regulation X. of 1829, but in Hazareebaugh the Agent's orders are still in force. These circumstances having come to the knowledge of the Deputy Commissioner, he reported them to the Agent, who has now directed, that in Hazareebaugh also, the scale of duty laid down in Regulation X. of 1829 should be levied.

57. When Pergunnah Dhulbhoom formed part of the Midnapore District, and also when it was transferred to the Purulia or Manbhoom District, Stamp duties were levied as in other parts of Bengal; but since its transfer to the Chyebassa District, it has been declared beyond the

reach of Regulation X. of 1829. I can see no reason for this. As soon as the Pergunnah shall have been settled in the manner I have proposed, I would levy Stamp duties there as elsewhere.

CIVIL JUSTICE.

58. The Civil Courts in this District are the Court of the Principal Assistant, the Court of the Principal Sudder Ameen at Golah, and two Moonsiffs' Courts.

59. In three years, from 1851 to 1853, the suits instituted in the Office of the Principal Assistant were as follows:—

Suits above Rupees 1,000,	58
Ditto under Rupees 1,000,	51
Moonsiffs' appeals,	291

60. Since a Principal Sudder Ameen has been located at Golah, suitors go into his Court, or into the Court of the Principal Assistant at Lohardugga, whichever they may prefer. Should the Assistant find his file heavy, and that of the Principal Sudder Ameen light, he transfers cases to the Sudder Ameen's file from his own.

61. From the 1st January to the 1st September 1853, the Principal Assistant disposed of twenty-five original suits and seventy-five appeals. The average time that an original suit remains pending is two years, two months, and twenty days. The average time for an appeal is one year and four days.

62. The Principal Sudder Ameen of Golah decided between May and September, eleven original suits. The average time each suit remained pending was three years, three months, and twenty-eight days. He was appointed in May only, and of the cases made over to him no more were in a state to be disposed of. The Principal Assistant had not transferred any Moonsiffs' appeals up to the end of September, but he has now made over forty appeals.

63. The Moonsiff of Chota Nagpore or Kishenpore disposed of 270 cases; six months and nine days was the average time during which a suit had remained pending.

64. The Moonsiff of Lohardugga disposed of 343 cases; ten months and twenty-nine days was the average time a case remained pending.

65. The Returns show that the Officers of this Division contrive to employ themselves throughout the month in disposing of cases,

though the Chota Nagpore Moonsiff has only four Omlah, and the Moonsiff of Lohardugga only three.

66. In para. 7 of their letter of the 12th August 1852, the Court proposed, that the jurisdiction of a Principal Sudder Ameen to be stationed at Golah should extend to the limits of both the Hazareebaugh and Lohardugga Divisions, and that appeals from his decisions, in respect to suits appertaining to these different Divisions, should lie to the Principal Assistant of the two Divisions respectively, but that the general control of the Office and records should lie with the Principal Assistant at Hazareebaugh.

67. The Orders of the 16th of February 1853 vested the Principal Sudder Ameen of Hazareebaugh with Civil jurisdiction in Lohardugga, and also with the powers of an Assistant under Regulation III. of 1821 in both Districts, but with respect to the Division of Lohardugga, the Orders last mentioned have been a dead letter and regarded as a clerical error, no proposal to that effect having been submitted to the Government; but it appears to me, that the jurisdiction of the Principal Sudder Ameen was designedly extended to the two Divisions. At all events, the local Officers, if they supposed such Orders had been issued by mistake should have referred for further instructions.

68. The Governor General's Agent informs me, that he believes it was the intention of his predecessor to recommend the establishment of a Sub-Division, but that it was not a part of his plan to annex any part of Lohardugga to such Sub-Division. Mr. Allen says he will now, in pursuance of the orders, direct the Principal Assistant of the Hazareebaugh and Lohardugga Divisions to make over Criminal cases to the Principal Sudder Ameen for trial; but unless a definite jurisdiction be assigned to him, and parties are allowed to commence their cases in his Office, his location at Golah will be no convenience, but rather an inconvenience, for having commenced their cases at Chota Nagpore, they will have to go to Golah to procure investigation of them.

69. Mr. Allen is by no means desirous of seeing a Sub-Division established at Golah, with jurisdiction over any part of Nagpore. If any part of Nagpore is to be attached to a Sub-Division with the headquarters at Golah, Pergunnah Sillee would be the most convenient, but he thinks there are objections to placing a Pergunnah, having a large Col population, under the sole management of a Native Officer, and I concur with him.

70. The people generally seem very much dissatisfied with the Golah arrangements. They represent that the Principal Sudder Ameen being located in the North-east corner of the District, suitors have a long way to go, and that it greatly increases the expenses of parties obliged to have recourse to the Courts: they wish to have the Civil Court established at Rainchee, near the other Offices. It cannot be denied that the existing arrangement must be attended with many inconveniences. The Principal Assistant, when his file of either original suits or Moonsiffs' appeals is heavy, will transfer a number of cases to the Principal Sudder Ameen at Golah, and parties will consequently be obliged to make entirely new arrangements for the conduct of their cases.

71. The inhabitants of Palamow are especially dissatisfied. They will now have to provide Agents at three places—Koruda, Rainchee, and Golah. I could not find a single person to speak in favor of the plan. Of the 107 cases now pending before the Principal Sudder Ameen at Golah, 12 belong to Pergunnahs near Golah, 95 to Pergunnahs near Rainchee!

72. I cannot see why the system which prevails in all the upper Offices in the Division should not be extended to the inferior Offices. I would appoint Officers to Hazareebaugh and Lohardugga, with the powers of a Principal Sudder Ameen and the salary of Sudder Ameen, or in order to secure the services of very good men, the salary of each might be increased Rupees 50 per month. By this means, the wants of all Departments will be supplied, and all the objections to the Office at Golah will be remedied. Each of the Officers should have the powers of an Assistant under Regulation III. of 1821, in order that he may relieve the Principal Assistant of all trivial Criminal cases. Thus relieved, the Assistant will have ample time to dispose of any original suit or Moonsiffs' appeal, which, from its embracing any point of great local interest, or from any other circumstance, he may think it desirable to keep on his own file. I may add, that this proposal has the entire approval of all the local authorities, the Governor General's Agent, the Deputy Commissioner, and the Principal Assistant of Lohardugga, and would be very acceptable to all classes.

73. The Civil suits and appeals instituted at Lohardugga from 1851 to 1853 were, as I have stated, 300.*

* *Suits above 1,000 Rupees.*

1851,	21
1852,	18
1853,	16

74. If the Principal Assistant keeps on his own file 10 per cent. of these cases, the Principal Sudder Ameen will have about 120 cases to dispose of in each year, which, with all the miscellaneous Civil cases and the trivial Criminal cases, will give him sufficient employ.

75. The record-room is in excellent order. All the old papers, up to 1825, received from Ramgurh, have been destroyed. The papers from 1825 to 1834 remain as they were when transferred. The papers from 1834 to 1840 have been destroyed according to orders, and up to 1851, all old Monthly Returns and entirely useless papers have been burned also. The papers from 1841 to 1853 have been separated and prepared for destruction, as directed by the Circular Orders of the Sudder Court. No extra establishments have hitherto been allowed, but an application for two extra Mohurirs for two months has lately been submitted. These two extra hands must be allowed for four months, and in that time the arrangement directed by the Sudder Court will have been carried into complete effect.

76. The orders of the Sudder Court, respecting the preparation of issues in the trial of all cases, have been carried into effect in the Court of the Principal Assistant, and the Moonsiffs have been directed to attend to the instructions. I represented to the Principal Assistant, that mere orders were not likely to obtain all that was desired; that it was advisable to send to each Moonsiff some cases, in which issues had been prepared with success, or to send for them and thoroughly explain to them what is required of them. This will be done, and I have no doubt, that within a short time, the reformed system of conducting pleadings will be thoroughly understood in this Division.

77. The local peculiarities in the procedure of the Moonsiffs' Court appeared on inquiry to be as follows.

78. The Moonsiffs are prohibited from deciding a case *ex-parte*, without having obtained the permission of the Principal Assistant in each

Suits under 1,000 Rupees.

1851,	18
1852,	17
1853,	16

Moonsiffs' Appeals.

1851,	115
1852,	98
1853,	78

case so to dispose of it. Further, when Momdas, Mankees, Coles, Kherwas, and other ignorant people are defendants, the Moonsiffs have instructions not to pass judgment against them, either *ex-parte* or on their confession of judgment, without the personal appearance of the parties. Should a defendant not appear, when served with the usual process, the Moonsiff is to report to the Principal Assistant, who will take measures for procuring his attendance before the Moonsiff, through the Police, if necessary. These orders were issued in 1838 by the Principal Assistant, Mr. Davidson, who was thoroughly acquainted with the people of Nagpore and their habits. He had ascertained that ignorant persons of the classes above mentioned would, when served with process, abscond, or conceal themselves, or confess judgment, though the plaintiff had no claim whatever against them, from fear of the Courts.

79. When an inhabitant of Sonapore, a Pergunnah in the forest to the South, sued in Court, the peadah entrusted with the process receives a Perwannah from the Principal Assistant, addressed to the "Ilakadar" or land-owner of the Pergunnah, desiring him to cause the defendant to give an acknowledgment of the process. The people of Sonapore are for the most part Lurka Coles, resembling the Coles of Singbhoom.

80. These local Rules appear quite suited to the peculiarities which they are intended to provide for, but they should have been reported for the approval of the Government. I have now in another place recommended that all the local Rules should be collected and revised.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

81. There has been but one Court of Criminal Justice in this District, that of the Principal Assistant; but he has lately been relieved by the establishment of a Sub-Division at Koruda, and a Junior Assistant now devotes part of his time to the Office of the Governor General's Agent, and part to the Office of the Principal Assistant.

82. In the three years, from 1851 to 1853, the average number of persons brought to trial was 943- $\frac{2}{3}$ d, of which 448 were punished. The convictions in heinous cases were 528, the acquittals 557.

83. The total number of witnesses examined was 9,810, of whom 1,680 were detained one day only; 5,951 more than one, but not exceeding six days; 1,300 were detained above six days, but not more than eight days. This is not as satisfactory as might be, but I have said in

my Report on Purulia, there must be occasional delays, when all Departments being in the hands of one Officer, each can have its turn only instead of being daily attended to. The quantity of work in this Department alone, was sufficient, or nearly sufficient, to occupy the time of one Officer. Assistance has now been afforded, but it is easy to make an arrangement by which the assistance shall be less precarious, and I shall propose that more continuous aid should be provided.

84. I have, in reporting on the other Districts of this Division, said, that the Principal Assistants, if they consider a sentence of not more than seven years called for, have special authority to pass a sentence not exceeding seven years, reporting their proceedings for the approval of the Deputy Commissioner. In practice, in Nagpore, in cases of burglary and theft, the jurisdiction of the Principal Assistant is not held to be barred, if in cases of burglary, the value of the property stolen exceeds Rupees 100, or in cases of theft Rupees 300. Such cases are disposed of without reference to the value of the property stolen, but should the Principal Assistant consider a sentence of three years insufficient, he reports his proceedings for approval as above described.

85. In cases of petty assault, &c., if the peadah deputed to serve the summons cannot find the defendant, his apprehension is effected by an order to the Police.

86. When witnesses are summoned, a subpoena only is not issued, the peadah is ordered to bring the witness in.

87. In cases of simple theft and burglary, a written petition is not required from the prosecutor. A verbal application is sufficient, and after his deposition has been taken on oath, investigation is entered upon.

88. I have before mentioned, in my Reports in the other Divisions of this Agency, that the Moonsiffs are authorized to fine in Criminal cases to the amount of Rupees 5, and there is an order of the Agents, that when the fine is not paid, the chattels of the party fined are to be sold in realization thereof. As I have already proposed, that all such General Orders issued by the Agents should be collected and revised, no comments on these local Rules appear to be called for.

89. I would give the Moonsiff of Lohardugga and Kishenpore the powers of Assistants under Regulation IX. of 1807, to try cases of petty assault, affray, abusive language, &c., within their respective jurisdictions.

90. The useless records have all been burned, excepting those of a later date than 1843.

POLICE.

91. From 1850 to 1852 crime increased in this District, and the proportion of those punished to those supposed to be concerned decreased. The numbers were as follows:—

YEARS.	Crimes.	Persons concerned.	Punished.
1850,	258	585	150
1851,	303	787	129
1852,	353	1096	177

But in 1853, there was a great improvement.

1853,	218	957	222
-------------	-----	-----	-----

92. In 1850 there was but one dacoity; in 1851, there were two dacoities; in 1852, there were thirteen dacoities, and only two persons punished; in 1853, there were eleven dacoities, and ninety-five persons punished. This sudden increase in the number of dacoities calls for searching inquiry. In reporting on Purulia, I have proposed, that the Principal Assistant should be directed to visit during the ensuing season all the worst of the Thannahs, and I would recommend that similar orders be issued to the Assistant at Chota Nagpore. A mere flying visit will avail nothing; he must remain for sometime in each Thannah, and trace the mischief to its source and check it at once. Relieved as the Assistant will be by measures I have proposed, he may well devote from two to three months to this duty.

93. There are seven Police Thannahs with the usual establishment; and ten Zemindars, holding under the Rajah of Nagpore, have the management of the Police within their respective mehals. About three-fifths of the District are embraced by the seven Thannahs, the remaining two-fifths are comprised in the ten Zemindars. In two of the Zemindaries, there are Darogahs named by the Zemindars; in eight there are Mohurirs, also named by the Zemindars. Four of the Thannahs are now under the Assistant stationed at Koruda, and one Zemindary Silleedagh, is under the same authority. In six Zemindaries, all orders are addressed to the Zemindars, who have charge of the Police. In four, the orders are directed to the Mohurirs, who are appointed by the Zemindars to assist in

the performance of the Police duties. In one, Rehaz, as the Zemindar, the Rajah of Nagpore, does not reside in the estate, orders are necessarily sent to the Mohurir, who does. In Berwa, the possessors of the Estate being women, the Mohurir receives the orders, and conducts the duties. In Sillee, the Zemindary being attached in execution of a decree, the Police has been taken out of the hands of the Rajah. The possessor of Silleadagh, in Palamow, holds lands on condition of paying the Police, but as he has no further concern with the establishment, the orders are addressed to the paid Police Officer.

94. In reporting on Purulia, I mentioned that the Mohurirs who, under the Zemindars, conduct the Police duties, are nominated by the Assistant and paid by the Government. Finding a different system in the Lohardugga District, I requested the Governor General's Agent to inform me under what circumstances the arrangements in the two Districts were so entirely different, and which was in practice found to be the most efficient. Mr. Allen says he can find nothing in his Office, from which the cause of the diversity of system can be discovered, but he imagines that the different systems found in force, when the Districts were transferred under Act IX. of 1853, were, without question, adopted. He is of opinion, that so long as the Police is entrusted to the Zemindars, the appointment of all the subordinate Police Officers ought to rest with them, as divided responsibility is likely to be productive of inactivity and neglect, if not worse. Reference being had to the general character of the Zemindars I incline to the opinion, that the appointment of a Mohurir, named by the Principal Assistant and paid by the Government, might act as a useful check on them. The Governor General's Agent has called for full information from the Assistants as to the origin of the system which prevails in their respective Districts, and will bring the subject forward for consideration and final orders.

95. The Principal Assistant represents that the Zemindary Police is inefficient, that the Zemindars are generally ignorant, and either unwilling or unable to perform their duties, and the establishment employed under them are so under-paid, it is hopeless to expect good service from them. The Mohurirs receive Rupees 6, many of the Burkundazes Rupees 1-8, which is a quarter less than is paid to a cooley for the commonest manual labor. The Assistant represents, that the only remedy is the abolition of the Zemindary system, and the establishment of a regular-paid Police in its stead. The Governor General's Agent also represents that

what he has seen of the Zemindary Police, has not given him a favorable impression of them.

96. No information is procurable as to the terms on which the Police was originally left in the hands of the Zemindars—whether they are bound to keep it in a state of efficiency—whether the expense was limited, cannot be ascertained. The Principal Assistant, Captain W. Oakes, is of opinion, that for the sum now paid by the Zemindars, a more efficient establishment could be kept up, were the Police placed directly under the Assistant. In short the Assistant considers the Zemindars as impeding rather than forwarding efficient management.

97. There can be no doubt, that an honest, able, and active Zemindar, with the power of a Darogah, might afford most efficient assistance to good government, while the power of a Zemindar of opposite character to do mischief is unmeasurably increased by leaving the Police in his hands.

98. Circumstances are much altered since the Police was placed in the hands of these Zemindars, and careful inquiry appears called for, as to the necessity of longer continuing a system, which places the duties of the Police in the hands of those whom the Principal Assistant reports are either unable or unwilling to perform them.

99. The Thannah in the town of Rainchee is in a very dilapidated, disreputable condition, and it was represented to me, that the sum allowed was quite insufficient to keep it in repair. It consists of one lock-up room of mud, standing in the middle of a square of mud huts covered with tiles. It should be thoroughly repaired at the expense of the State.

JAIL.

100. The Jail consists of three long wards, 137 × 14, 119 × 14, and 98 × 14, and one room in which women are confined. There is no Civil Jail. I found six prisoners confined in Civil cases in the same ward with seventy criminals sentenced to various periods of imprisonment by the Principal Assistant. The room in which the women are confined opens into the same yard as the ward of the male prisoners, there is no attempt to keep them separate. There is no wall of any sort round the Jail. The building is of mud, with pukka floors and tiled roof. The objectionable system of having a Burkundaz alone in the wards with the prisoners; which I have found fault with before, also exists here. The Hospital is a large airy room, in no respect objectionable.

101. The cost of the subsistence of a laboring convict is Rupees 1-11-6; of a non-laboring, Rupees 1-8-3. This is higher than in the other Divisions of the Agency which I have visited, and I think the quantity allowed is more than is necessary. A working prisoner receives twelve chittacks of rice, one chittack of doll, two chittacks of vegetables, and two chittacks of fish or flesh. There is not, I believe, a laboring man in the District, who habitually consumes seventeen chittacks, including twelve chittacks of rice per day.

102. The dietary system prescribed has been carried out, and opium and tobacco are not allowed. The prisoners are all employed in repairing roads, with the exception of those required as Jail servants, and in the Hospital.

103. A statement of the deaths in the Jail, from 1846 to 1853, furnished by the Principal Assistant, contains very striking proof of the effect of over crowding a Jail. From 1846 to 1849, the deaths averaged 17.52 per cent each year. In September 1849, the number was reduced by the removal of some of the prisoners to Hazareebaugh. The average from 1850 to 1853 fell to 3.23 per cent. per annum, being less than one-fifth of the average of the four previous years.

104. The requirements are a wall round the Jail. It should be built of stones, so far shaped as to present a smooth outside, without cement, except for a few inches at the top. The Executive Engineer, Lieutenant Moncrieff, who was with me, assures me, such a wall, if properly built, will last for a very long period. I saw one here a few days ago, which had stood for 150 years. The stones may be collected, and shaped by the prisoners, and they can perform all the labor connected with building the wall, except actually placing the stones. A wall of this description would be very suitable at Chyebassa, where there is stone in abundance. There should be a separate building for women, and a separate room for Civil prisoners, and the houses for the Guard and for the Burkundazes should be arranged with more reference to convenience of position and space. As there is nothing gained by wards of 137, and 119 feet in length, I would divide that 137 feet long into three, and that 119 feet long into two, and then separate the prisoners into classes.

105. When, in order to effect a separation of convicts into classes, it is necessary to incur a very large expense, there may be good reason to question whether the advantage is worth the outlay, but four or five mud huts cost so very little more than two or three mud huts, that in all

these kutchia Jails, there should be the most careful and systematic attention to classification, whereas it is usual, because the Jail is of kutchia material, to have all the arrangements connected with it kutchia too.

106. The Jail at Rainchee may have been suitably situated when first erected, but it is now very necessary that it should be removed elsewhere. The Bazar has grown up on three sides of it, and there being no Jail walls, it appears to be a part of the Bazar. It is to leeward of a large tank, which being formed by a dam across low ground, the upper part, that nearest the Jail, is always swampy, and from October to the beginning of the ensuing rains, there is always a margin of considerable breadth drying up. Moreover, immediately outside the Jail, to the West from which quarter the prevailing wind blows, there are paddy-fields.

107. It being agreed by all the authorities, that the removal of the Jail is most necessary,* I carefully examined the different sites in the neighbourhood available, and requested the Surgeon to state his opinion of each.

108. Dr. Brougham accordingly submitted the annexed plan of the Station, with the three sites available, marked 1, 2, 3, with reference to his estimation of each. He prefers the spot marked 1, but there is no water near: it is close to the road, and almost immediately opposite a beautiful new Church erecting by the German Mission located at Rainchee. As the Surgeon always lives at Dorunda, it would be very convenient to him to have the Jail at this spot, † marked No. 1, which is on the Dorunda road; but there is no other advantage observable in this site, and it would be most objectionable to place a Jail within a few yards of the Church.

* On the 22nd September 1849, the Surgeon wrote as follows, respecting the present locality of the Jail :—"Immediately in front is the back of the Bazar, to the West up to the very Jail compound are rice grounds, from which, in the hot season, the most offensive effluvia is wafted by the prevalent winds direct to the Jail. To the South, about three hundred yards distant, is a large sheet of water, which being shallow at the North end has during the hot season, a margin of verdant mud, while in and about the immediate vicinity of the Jail are holes and pits of all sizes, full of putrefying matter and water, to fill up which will, I am sure, employ the prisoners for the next twelve months. I think then I have cause to say the site of the Jail is the reverse of good, especially when, in addition, the present locality presents this inconvenient feature, viz., that the Jail compound cannot be enlarged, at least without taking in rice fields, or pulling down the Bazar."

† In justice to Dr. Brougham, I should state that he is not personally interested, for he expects to be promoted and removed very shortly.

109. No. 2 has some of the same objections as No. 1 ; there is no water, and it would be objectionable to place the Jail immediately in front of the Agency House.

110. No. 3 is preferred by all, except the Surgeon. It is at a convenient distance from the great tank, without being too near. It is to windward of the tank, the prevailing winds being West and North-west. The wind is never from the East, except in rainy weather, when the tank is not unwholesome. Though not far distant from the Bazar, there is no chance of the Bazar ever reaching the spot, the tank being between. It is not so near the hill, that any inconvenience will be occasioned by it. In my opinion, this site is, in every respect, the most suitable to be found.

111. If it were not that the labour of prisoners is so much required at these new Stations, I should propose to build accommodation for no more than fifty prisoners, and to remove all sentenced to above three months' imprisonment to Hazareebaugh ; but the repair of the roads at Rainchee and Dorunda is performed entirely by the prisoners. Additions to the Jail at Hazareebaugh would be more expensive than mud accommodation at Rainchee, and if the prisoners were removed, hired labor would be necessary to keep the roads in a passable condition.

112. I recommend therefore, that a new Jail of mud, large enough to contain 200 prisoners, with rooms for women and Civil prisoners quite separate, be erected on site No. 3. The outside wall should be of stone, cemented at the top only. The Jail yard enclosed by the outside wall should be at least 300 feet square, the most space being allowed to the west, the quarter from which the prevailing wind blows. The floors of the wards should be pukka, sloping gently towards the middle, so that they may be washed without injuring the mud walls. The roofs should be thatched, with tiles over the thatch. I have seen work of that sort in these Provinces, which has stood for eight years. Such roofs are cool, and there is no fear of fire. The thatched roof should be raised about a foot from the wall all round, in order to free ventilation. It is my belief that a Jail of this sort, if not over-crowded and kept clean, may be as healthy as the most expensive Jail of masonry that can be built.

113. I beg to recommend that a small Hospital and Dispensary be established at Rainchee, the head-quarters of the Agency. There is no place into which persons requiring surgical aid can be received. A room not far from the Jail Hospital, or near the Regimental Hospital, capable of holding twelve patients, would suffice.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

114. The public buildings are in good order.

115. The room occupied by the Deputy Commissioner, which is no more than the enclosed verandah of the bungalow in which the Principal Assistant sits, appeared to me exceedingly uncomfortable, and unsuited to the position occupied by the Deputy Commissioner. It is so low, there is no room for a punkah to swing with advantage, and to have a punkah at all, the Deputy Commissioner is obliged to place his chair on the floor. Major Hannyngton made no complaints, dignity and ease are not with him matters of paramount consideration. I think a suitable Office-room should be provided for him, having a raised bench and a punkah.

116. The Treasury should be altered. At present two small rooms are devoted to Treasury purposes, one opening to the East, the other to the West, as shown in Plan A. I would alter them as shown in Plan B, C will then be the Treasury opening into D, the receiving room, which having a door at each end will be convenient and airy.

SALT.

117. I mentioned in reporting on Cuttack, that 85,000 maunds of Salt are now annually taken from the Kypara Golah under rowannahs to Chota Nagpore. A considerable portion of this Salt is not taken to Rainchee, it is consumed in Singbhoom or taken to the villages N. N. E. of Singbhoom, and N. W. to Govindpore, Lohardugga and Palamow, and part is carried on to Chuttra, Hazareebaugh and Shergotty, if not farther.

118. It is estimated, that about 20,000 bullocks come by different routes from Chyebassa into the Chota Nagpore District, some going North-east to Sillee, some North to Tamar and Rainchee, others North-west to Govindpore and Lohardugga.

119. The price at Rainchee is generally about Rupees 4 per maund ; occasionally eleven and twelve seers may be obtained for a Rupee. They sold me Salt at Ramghur, (Cuttack Salt from Kypara,) at eight seers per Rupee, or Rupees 5 per maund, and nine and ten seers per Rupee are sometimes procurable there, so that Kypara Salt would cost about Rupees 4-7 at Hazareebaugh, Rupees 4-9 to 5 at Shergotty, Rupees 4-12 to 5-4 at Gyah.

120. Salt from Kypara may be sold at Purulia and the adjacent Pergunnahs at from Rupees 4 to Rupees 4-8 per maund, and I cannot doubt that the Salt from the Eastward, which there meets it, is smuggled

from Hidgellee and Tumlook, or is Mohurbunge Salt taken from Sirsa. I should suspect, that it might be Balasore Salt, smuggled direct from the Aurungs, were it not that the Rajah of Mohurbunge would not allow it to pass his territory and interfere with his sales.

ROADS.

121. The roads which are most required are a direct road from Chyebassa to Chota Nagpore, by which the distance will be shortened fifteen miles, and two ghauts, all but impassable, will be avoided. Captain Haughton carefully examined the proposed line, and a copy of a map, prepared by him, is submitted herewith. With the exception of a short distance on the crest of the hills, I believe the estimate I have made of Rupees 20 per mile will be ample for this road—a road from Sumbhulpore through Rygurrh and Oodeypore to Sirgoojah, a road from Sirgoojah to Mirzapore, a road from Chota Nagpore to Sirgoojah, a road from Sumbhulpore to Chota Nagpore, a road from Chota Nagpore through Chuttra to Shergotty. They should all be fair-weather roads, made and repaired in the manner proposed in my Reports on Chyebassa and Purulia. There are paths already; all that is necessary, is, that those paths should be widened where they pass through jungle and smoothed.

122. I have, since my Report on Purulia was written, travelled over more made roads and more unmade roads, and I repeat the assertion, that the system of road-making by digging two ditches, one on each side, is entirely unsuited to this country. The track selected for a road may, without harm, be a very little raised, just sufficient to prevent water lodging, but there should be no ditches any where, and in most places even the little raising had better be dispensed with: the making should be merely a mark to prevent encroachments. The hollows in which rice is grown should be crossed by a stone causeway, raised level with the usual flood in the hollow, no higher. Stone is found almost every where. The stones should be thrown down without any attempt at arrangement, until nearly the height required, which will never be above two feet; then smaller stones should be thrown over the larger ones, so as to make the causeway passable without difficulty.

123. On the Dâk roads, light wooden bridges on the tension principle, may be thrown over the few torrents which cross the routes.

124. Many of the routes, on which I have proposed to make fair-weather roads, will, on the system I have proposed, be passable for

hackeries all the year round, except at the torrents and rivers. Doubtless, as soon as the roads shall be constantly open, cheap means for crossing the rivers will be provided.

125. It has been remarked to me, that roads such as I desire to introduce, though they may answer for a little traffic, will soon be cut up when traffic shall increase. I answer to this, that no consistency is obtained by heaping up earth; on the contrary, the raised and made road will be more dusty in the hot weather and more muddy in the wet weather than the unmade road. Nagpore, Manbhoom, Dhulbhoom, Burrabhoom, Singbhoom, and the other Districts in these parts, have not, like Bengal, large plains subject to inundation, through which the road must be considerably raised to be out of the water. These Districts are composed of large tracts of undulating uplands, and a few hollows, by which the surplus water is drained. There may be on an average 2 per cent. hollows. These hollows must be roughly paved with loose stones in the manner described above. It is my belief, that Rupees 20 per mile will do more for the roads over this Province than Rupees 1,000 per mile will do for roads in Bengal. The aggregate length of the roads now proposed is 640 miles. Rupees 20 per mile will amount to Rupees 12,800; Rupees 5 per mile each year for repairs will be Rupees 3,200.

126. Again, I beg to represent the necessity of the most stringent orders, prohibiting the cutting of trees by the roadside. I have just traversed twenty miles of the new road between Hazareebaugh and Golah; though the road runs through a forest, there is no shelter. The trees near the road are all gone, while the still standing stumps will, for many years, bear evidence of the want of thought of those who were employed in the work. It is true, that for the most part the trees are small, and individually can afford but little shelter, but that is the consequence of their standing so thick. As soon as those on each side have been removed, and merely a row is left, they will begin to spread, and in three or four years afford more shelter than trees now planted would afford in



thirty years. When a road is cut through a forest, the trees should be left as shown in the margin, without reference to size or sort at first; a person qualified for the task may, at a subsequent period, be sent along the road to thin them, with a view to

the improvement of those best suited to the purpose for which they have been saved.

127. I understand it is proposed to lay out a considerable sum in bridging the new road from Hazareebaugh to Golah, and from Golah to Govindpore. The money will be much more profitably expended in opening fair-weather roads. The work *immediately* required on this new road is that the open spaces left for bridges should be made passable by being sloped and smoothed, and that the ditches on the sides of the road should be filled in at every hundred yards to stop the current, and prevent accumulation of water and the consequent formation of ravines.

SILLEE FAIR.

128. The theory of the Sillee Fair, a place at which, at the finest season of the year, all the Chiefs of the neighbourhood should meet, and exchange the courtesies of good-will, and all the Merchants should meet and exchange their commodities, was good, but I fear there is little, if any, chance of its succeeding, for the simple reason, that nearly all the Chiefs for many miles round are beggars. No one has any money to spend. Knowing that the success of this Fair was much desired by Mr. Crawford, the late Agent to the Governor General, who established it, many of the neighbouring Zemindars, and some from a distance, attended last year and the year before, but it was in conformity with an invitation, which they regarded in the light of an order, to present themselves at this meeting. This year there were very few visitors, the traffic was limited, and many traders who had come from a distance, said they could not afford to come again. Unfortunately all Rajahs think it necessary to come with the retinue becoming a Rajah, and land-holders of inferior rank thought it beneath them to attend without a considerable number of followers. Those unable or unwilling to incur the expense must stay away, and henceforward very few will attend. Moreover, there is no shelter near at hand, not even a considerable village. Last year, and the year before, rain fell to the great discomfort of all, and this year also there was rain for several hours.

129. A Rajah or Zemindar of any position would consider himself disgraced, if he attended the Fair and made no purchases, so that all who attend, not only have to take more followers than can be of any use to them, but besides that, they have to purchase things which they do not want. Looking to the condition of all the land-holders of any rank in the

neighbourhood of Sillee, it certainly behoves the authorities, if they interfere at all, to endeavour to persuade them to avoid all opportunities of extravagance, and to live as retired as possible, till they shall have liquidated their debts.

130. Saving that a few Horse Merchants attended with some very bad horses, the Sillee Melah of this year was not better attended than many good markets, and the Horse Merchants said they could come no more. The present Governor General's Agent will do all in his power to support this Fair, for he knows that the Government and the Court of Directors have approved of the scheme ; but vitality is wanting, the place is inconvenient, the people of the neighbourhood are poor, there is no shelter for either Merchants or visitors, the Fair must die. I would recommend, that, before matters become worse, it be removed to Chutea near Rainchee, where there is a mangoe grove, covering above one hundred acres of land, three large tanks, the River Subenreeka near at hand, a large village, in which, on rain falling, all perishable goods may be secured, and the bazar of Rainchee within one mile and a half, in which visitors may lodge. I am not sanguine, that a Fair at Chutea will flourish, for the same reason that I feel sure the Fair at Sillee must fall ; there are few people in a condition to buy, but there are more than at Sillee. The Palamow Jagheerdars are people of some substance, and many of the Zemindars under the Rajah of Nagpore are solvent, if they are not rich. Moreover, all, or nearly all, must have some business to be transacted at Rainchee, the head-quarters of the Agency, whereas there can be no business at Sillee but buying, and as I have said, very few are in a condition to buy.

131. It is true that Rainchee will be three days farther for the people of Bishenpore and Bancoorah, but they bring for the most part hard-ware, brass pots and pans, which will suffer no injury from being carried a little farther. I have no fears of the change of site keeping away that class of persons, while it will be more convenient for the people of Behar, especially if a fair-weather road is constructed from Rainchee through Chutea to Shergotty.

ESTABLISHMENT.

132. The Principal Assistant represents, that the number of the Chuprassies cannot be reduced without impairing the efficiency of the Office to which they are attached, but he does not assign any reason,

why more should be required at Chota Nagpore, than in Manbhoom. There is one Kalassee attached to the establishment, and I would allow a second on Rupees 4, making the reduction of four persons at Rupees 4 each, or Rupees 16 per mensem, instead of Rupees 20, as shown in the Statement submitted by the Agent on the 7th of October 1852.

EMPLOYMENT OF FOREIGNERS.

133. It having come to my knowledge, that nearly all in the employment of Government, of all classes and grades, were Foreigners, I called for a Statement showing the District, in which every person drawing Government pay resides. The Return has not been received, but I know that it will show, that the Moonsiff of Lohardugga is the only educated Native of Nagpore, in the service of the Government, and that nearly all the places, in which a knowledge of reading and writing is not required, Burkundazes, Chuprassies and Peadahs are filled by people from the Districts of Behar.

134. This state of things appears to be pregnant with mischief, and I regard it as exceedingly unjust. So long as the inhabitants of Nagpore shall see all the advantages, to be derived from the Government service in the hands of others, there must be a feeling of estrangement on their part; alienated and ignorant, they will remain quiet only, till some one shall again preach to them, that they may better themselves by burning and pillaging their neighbours' houses.

135. All classes in the country would gladly accept service. The Nagbunsees, Chonaus, Chandels, and Birtias could, without any sense of degradation, perform the duties of any Office, from the highest down to the duties of a Jemadar. The Roteas, Khirwas, Bogtas, Dussuarrees and Burraiks would all serve as Burkundazes, Chuprassies, Hurcarrahs, Peadahs, &c. These are all connected with the land, and rank above those who actually hold the plough.

136. The Cultivators are, generally speaking, Coles (Moondeeas, Kureas, and Qorwans,) and among them some may be found equal in intelligence to the Mahomedans and Hindus of the Behar Districts, and in diligence and honesty their superiors. So long as all the higher offices are in the hands of Foreigners, there is little, if any, chance of the Coles obtaining employ, for all the higher classes of course have followers, always hanging on, ready to be thrust forward whenever a vacancy shall occur.

137. I recommend that whenever, on a vacancy occurring, the District Officer shall recommend a Foreigner to fill it, he shall be bound to show that he has endeavoured in vain to find a Native of Nagpore qualified to perform its duties, and that all vacancies among the lower classes, such as Burkundazes, Chuprassies, Peadahs, &c., be invariably supplied by the appointment of Natives, till at least one-half on all the establishments shall be people of Nagpore.

138. Great firmness on the part of the European Officers will be necessary in meeting the complaints and remonstrances with which they will be assailed—Especially, they will be told, that a knowledge of the Persian character is absolutely necessary to enable a person to transact the business of the Office, but if seven or eight persons were at once assured, that on vacancies occurring, they should be appointed if they would qualify themselves, the Persian character would soon be learned. I hesitate to recommend, that Nagree should take the place of the Persian character. Major Wilkinson, after much consideration, preferred the Persian to the Nagree character, and we could not change without largely increasing the establishments in all Departments.

SCHOOLS.

139. Though an English Government School has been established for some years, it has done nothing towards the education of the people of the Province. The number borne on the books is 44, and the attendance in the last quarter of last year averaged 24. There are but two, whose families are connected with the land of Nagpore. The German Missionaries, established at Rainchee, have better success. For many years the prejudice against them was very strong, but they have now quite overcome it, and their Schools are full. The children are those of the lower orders.

140. It is hoped, that the introduction of Hindee in the Government School will have a good effect. It was first allowed in September 1853, and the number on the roll quickly increased from 27 to 44.

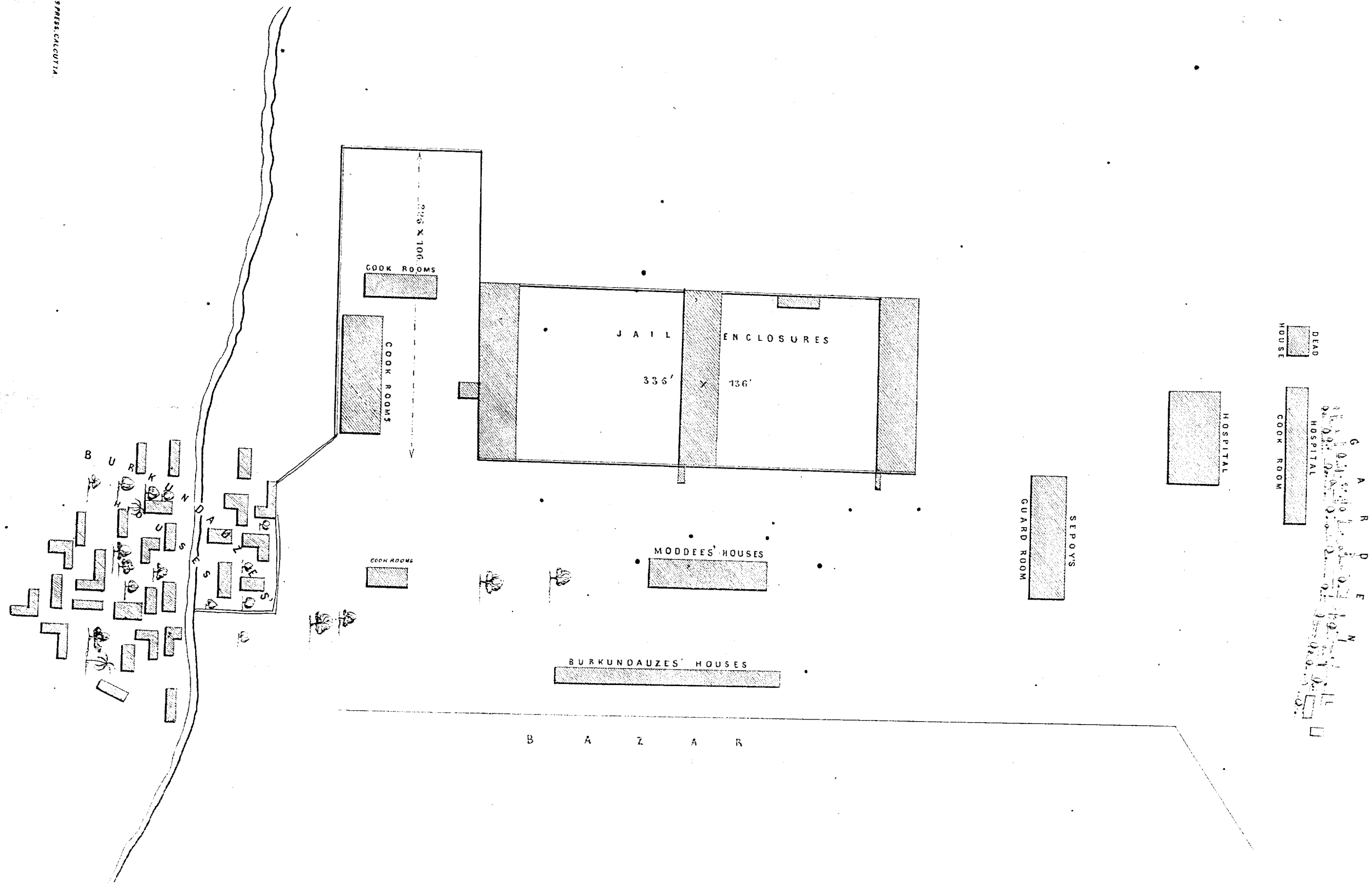
141. I have elsewhere mentioned, that the Government Offices are almost exclusively filled by Foreigners, and have proposed, that for the future any Officer recommending that a vacant office shall be filled by a Foreigner, shall state that he has endeavoured in vain to obtain the services of a Native of the Province qualified to discharge its duties. I expect that when the Natives of the Province shall feel assured, that

if qualified, they will be preferred to Foreigners, they will not be backward in qualifying themselves, for they all speak the language of the Courts, and have but to make themselves acquainted with the Persian character.

142. There are no Government Vernacular Schools in Chota Nagpore, and notwithstanding the success which has lately attended the German Missionary Schools, I do not think Government Schools would meet with much, if any, success, but it is a mistake to say, that there is no inclination any where to learn. I believe if School-books were provided gratuitously for the use of the children of the agricultural classes, whenever fifteen or twenty could be brought together to learn, a few Schools might be formed, and it certainly is very desirable that an effort should be made among the Danga Coles. They hold the lands of a beautiful Province; they are notorious for industry, honesty, enterprize, and a most fortunate freedom from the many prejudices which enslave the people of the Plains; and though the lower classes are inferior to Bengalees in shrewdness and intelligence, there are doubtless many hundreds of youths of the middle classes, not less gifted by Nature than the Moonsiff of Lohardugga, who require only the opportunity to become useful servants.

* * * * *

Sketch
OF
JAIL BUILDINGS
CHOTA NAGPORE



plan
OF
THE STATION OF
RANCH E.

T. Black Little Asiatic Little Press Calcutta.

Sketch
of
PRESENT AND PROPOSED ROUTES
from
CHOTA NAGPOOR TO CHAIBASA.

Memo

miles - 2 Ghats.

ed 75 miles. 1 Ghat

Both routes are from village

to village and may be shortened

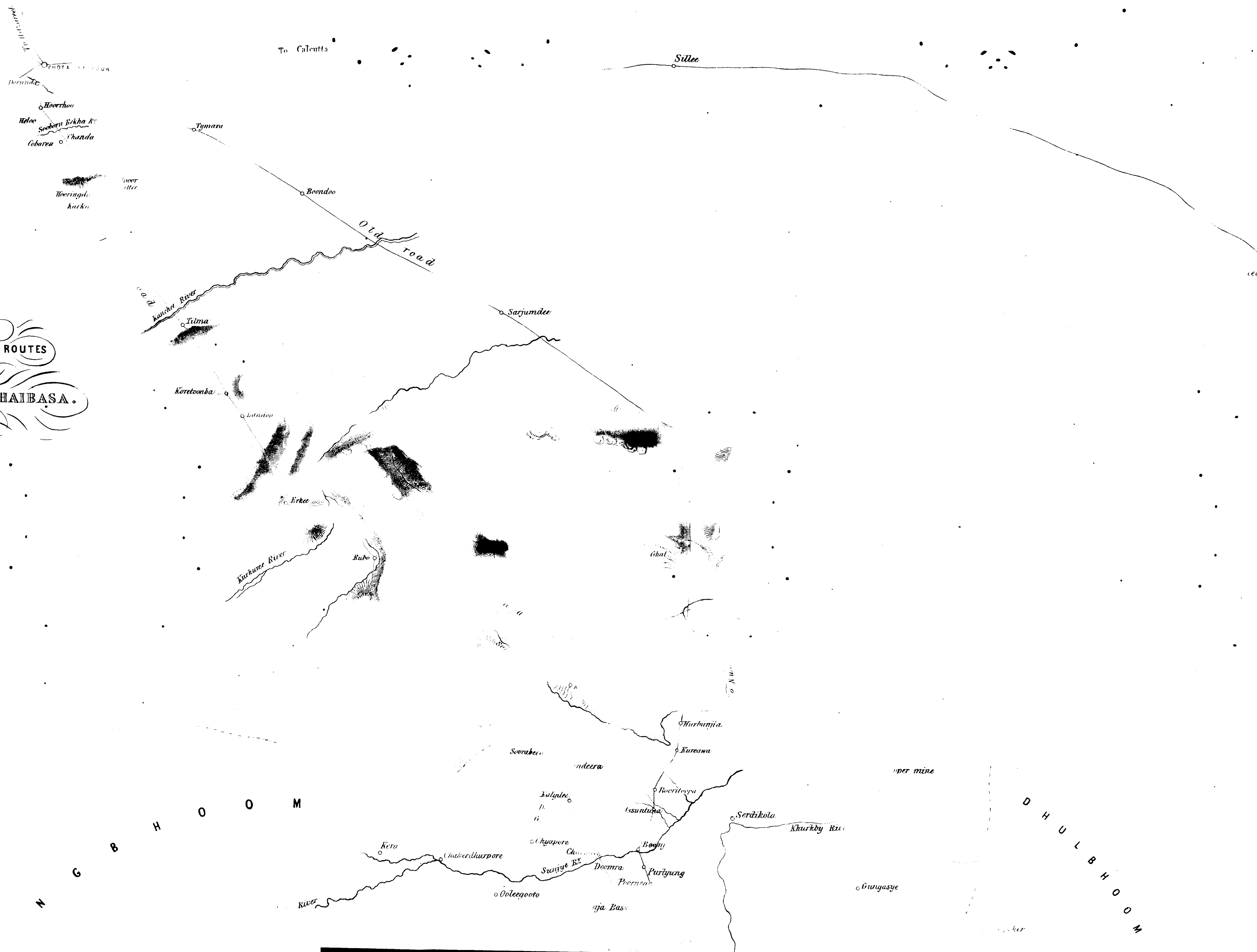
Considerably. The distance by the

Aboon kappa pass as far as the

Surjye river *miles.*—

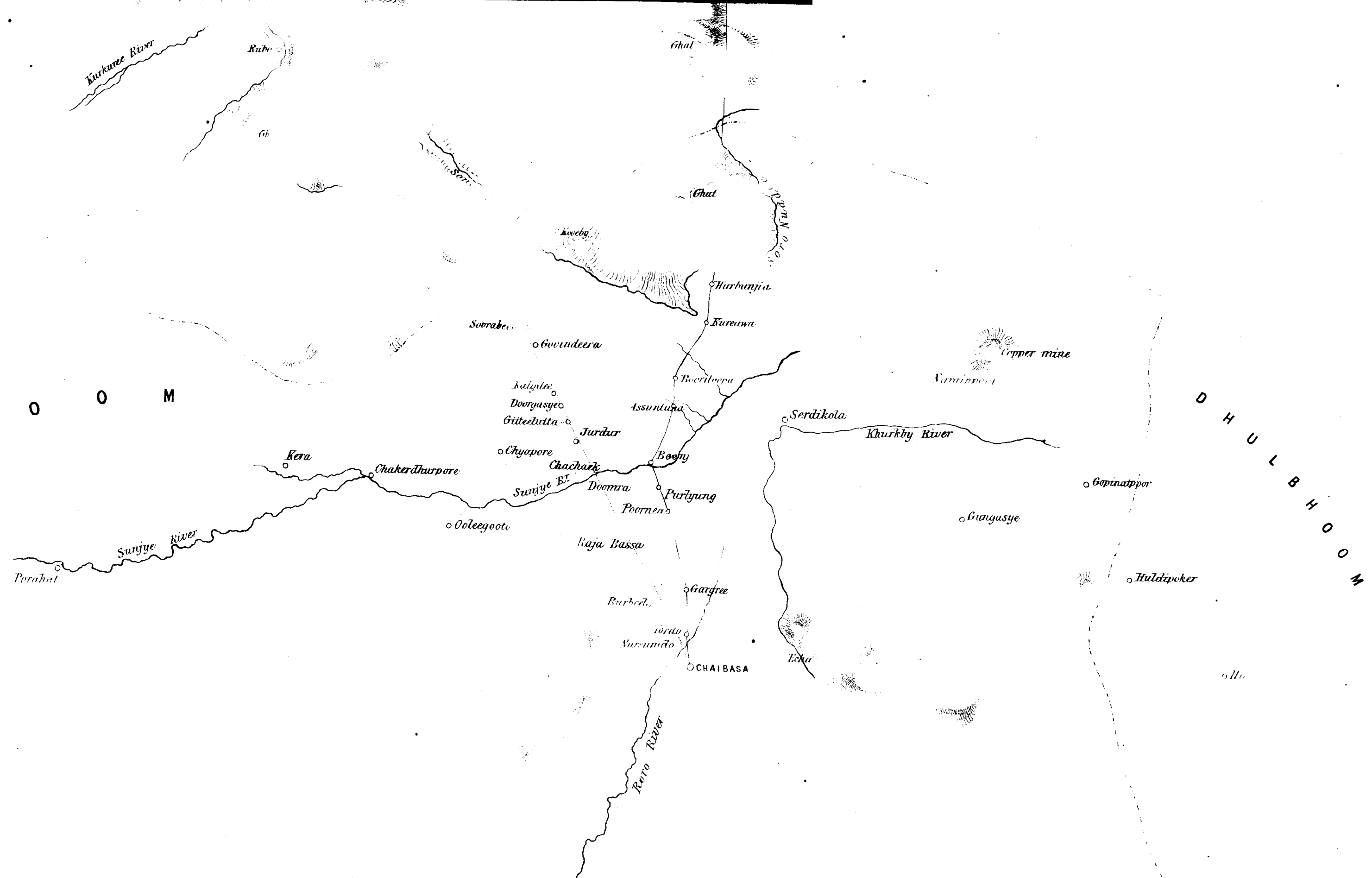
new route was proposed and

was Surveyed by Captⁿ. J. A. Maignon.



Both routes are from village to village and may be shortened considerably. The distance by the *Thammasak*

*This new route was proposed and
surveyed by Capt^d J. C. Haughton.*



M E M O R A N D U M
OF
P R O P O S A L S C O N T A I N E D I N T H I S R E P O R T.

PARA. 6. That the Tehseeldar of Oodeypoor be empowered to try cases of abusive language, trivial assault and affray, with the powers of an Assistant under Regulation IX. of 1807.

8. That the Manager of Sirgoojah be empowered in the same manner to dispose of trifling cases.

9. That the establishment of the Assistant at Kornda be increased, that at present allowed being insufficient to enable him to perform the duties of his Office.

17. That Mr. Thompson, the Assistant stationed at Kornda, be directed to make inquiries during the ensuing cold season, and supply the omissions in Mr. Ryan's Report on the Zemindary of Oodeypoor.

(Signed) HENRY RICKETTS.

SUB-DIVISION OF KORND A.

THE SUB-DIVISION OF KORND A.

THE Sub-Division of Kornda was established only in 1853.

2. The Officer stationed there has jurisdiction over the estates of Oodeypoor escheated to Government, Palamow purchased by Government, and Sirgoojah, a tributary Mehal, held under the Governor General's Agent.

3. In the 5th para. of his letter of the 21st February, the Agent recommended, that the Assistant should ordinarily exercise, subordinate to the Principal Assistant of Lohardugga, the full powers of a Magistrate, and corresponding powers in the Revenue Department: the proposal was sanctioned.

4. In his letter to me of the 19th October, the Assistant in charge of the Sub-Division stated, that Palamow had not then been made over to him, and that Lall Bindasaree Persad, the Rajah's younger brother, had the sole management of the Police, subject only to the supervision of the Assistant, and, consequently, that, on that date, Oodeypoor only was really subject to the entire management of his Office.

5. Having called for copy of the instructions issued to the Assistant, I find, that on the 8th August, the Agent directed the Assistant to exercise in Palamow the full powers of a Magistrate and Collector, in subordination to the Principal Assistant of Lohardugga; and on the 10th February, the Governor General's Agent instructed him, that in Oodeypoor, the entire Judicial, Revenue and Police duties were under his charge; that he would dispose of all Revenue and Civil cases which might be brought before him; that in the Criminal Department he would exercise the full powers of a Magistrate of the Regulation Provinces, and refer to his (the Governor General's Agent's) Court all cases which in a Regulation District would be committed to the Sessions; that in heinous cases, likely to be committed to the Agent's Court, the depositions should be taken by the Assistant in person, but that in petty cases, the depositions might be taken by the Tehseeldar as heretofore; that in all cases of crime or misdemeanour, he should hear the defence of accused persons before passing sentence, but that in petty cases of assault, &c., he might pass orders upon the

record received from the Tehseeldar; that in forwarding cases for the orders of the Agent's Court, he should submit a brief statement of the case and of the proofs adduced against the accused.

6. With reference to that part of these orders which says, that in petty cases of assault, &c., the Assistant may pass orders at once on the record received from the Tehseeldar, I think it would be better to give the Tehseeldar power to dispose of very trifling cases, with the powers of an Assistant under Regulation IX. of 1807.

7. With respect to Sirgoojah, the Assistant was instructed, that in conformity with the practice of the Office, he would interfere as little as possible, with the internal management of the Mehal; that in cases referred by the Manager, within the competence of a Magistrate, he would pass final orders and submit to the Agent such cases as in the Regulation Provinces would be committed for trial to the Sessions.

8. In cases within his own competency, Mr. Thompson was instructed, that it was not necessary for him to require the attendance of the witnesses at Kornda; that the evidence taken by the Sirgoojah Manager would suffice, provided there was not reason to doubt its genuineness, but he was at liberty to summon and examine the witnesses in any case whenever he considered it necessary. As in the case of Oodeypoor, instead of the Assistant passing orders in trivial cases on the strength of depositions taken by the Manager, I think it would be far safer, and better, in every respect, to give the Manager power to dispose of trifling cases with an appeal to the Assistant; as a Native, who would not hesitate to cook a case to be disposed of by the Assistant, would hesitate to cook a case to be disposed of by himself.

9. With these alterations, I approve of the instructions issued to the Assistant, but it appears to me, that the establishment he is allowed, is not sufficient to enable him to conduct his duties with any efficiency. I would increase it to Rupees 174, which will enable the Assistant to entertain six efficient men; without such an establishment, he will be unable to perform the duties expected from him. I must here remark, that it is the very worst economy to employ an expensive official, and to stint him in establishment. It is an economy universally prevalent, especially with reference to all our Native Judges, Deputy Collectors and Deputy Magistrates. Often times, a Mohurir at Rupees 10 per mensem is saved, at the cost of three days' pay of the master at Rupees 10 per diem. I now propose to increase the Assistant's establish-

ment allowance by Rupees 50 per mensem, which will enable him to do justice to his appointment, and to himself.

OODEYPOOR.

10. In para. 13 of his letter of the 27th May last, Mr. Crawford makes mention of the satisfactory Report on Oodeypoor, prepared by Mr. Ryan, Junior Assistant, but I find little in that Report. It gives no information whatever as to the resources of Oodeypoor. The Revenue yielded is Rupees 1,773-2-0. There are twelve Ilakadars or Zemindars, who have held the lands in their possession for several generations: from time to time increase has been imposed on them. In 1847, the late Agent, Colonel Ouseley, gave them and the Goomteas who hold the Khalsa lands, leases for one year, under which they have held up to the present time, paying year by year the amount then imposed, with the exception of four, whose payments were, to a trifling extent, increased. Mr. Ryan remarks, "that the tabular statements will show that the Zemindars pay much less revenue in proportion to the number of villages and land, than the Goomteas of Khalsa villages." The Statements certainly show, that on an average the Zemindars pay about Rupees 8 per village, while the Goomteas pay Rupees 11, and in all probability the assessment on the Zemindars is considerably less than that paid by the Goomteas; but the statement makes no mention of land, and for any thing to the contrary to be learned from the statement, it may be that the Zemindars are fully assessed, for, in the absence of all information as to the size of the villages, it can only be guessed, that as usual, the Goomteas pay the most. Mr. Ryan suggests that the estate should be newly assessed, but he offers no suggestions as to the principles on which the new assessment should be made.

11. He proposes that the Zemindars should be called upon to furnish a Report of their male heirs: that in the event of a proprietor dying without direct male heirs, the Zemindary should lapse to Government, and be farmed to Goomteas, as he feels convinced, that it would tend greatly to promote the welfare of the people, increase the revenue, and be of much benefit to the estate. As it appears the Government possess the right of imposing any assessment that may be considered fit, it is of little consequence who is the Zemindar; however, the registry proposed will, in the event of a lapse, enable the Government to make such arrangement as may be considered best, entirely unfettered; and so far it is a desirable measure.

12. The soil is particularly good, nevertheless there is much jungle. Mr. Ryan proposes, that land should be given rent-free for five years, and assessed on the expiration of that period; but he does not say at what rate, or with reference to what standard he would assess it.

13. Iron is procurable in all parts of the country, but unless of a most superior description, it never will be of any value in these remote parts, until the stock nearer to water communication shall have been exhausted. Tusser is procured, but, as yet, has been but little sought for. The demand for tusser is daily increasing, and doubtless that of Oodeypoor, when the roads proposed shall have been opened, will soon be in demand.

14. Rice is the staple, though but little is exported. The oil-seeds common in all parts of these Districts are produced, but little rubbee.

15. The Police establishment consists of one Mohurir, five Burkundazes, forty-two Goraites, and fifty-seven Kotenars. The duty of Goraites is to afford protection to the person and property of the inhabitants, to assist travellers, and to attend at the Thannah when wanted. The duty of the Kotenars is precisely the same, only they have not to attend at the Thannah.

16. This Report can afford but very little assistance towards a new settlement for a term of years. Mr. Thompson, the Assistant now in charge of Oodeypoor as part of the Kornda Division, will derive no more information from this Report than he might obtain from a few hours' conversation with any old intelligent inhabitant of the Zemindary, and an abstract of the old rent-roll of the estate.

17. Before sanctioning a lease for a term of years, the Government will of course expect to learn something of the resources of the estate, and to have information before them as to the advisability of allowing these twelve Zemindars to continue in possession of their "Ilakas" at the rents they now pay, or of making inquiries into the amount of rents they receive and the imposition of increased demands on them. It is necessary also that the condition and resources of the Goomtea villages should be ascertained, and the system of rent inquired into and reported. I recommend that Mr. Thompson, the Assistant now in charge of Oodeypoor, be directed to supply all these omissions in Mr. Ryan's Report after inquiries during the ensuing cold season.

18. As I have already, in my Report on Chota Nagpore, entered fully into the question of the settlement of Palamow, no further mention of that Pergunnah is necessary in this place.

INDEX.

	<i>Para.</i>	<i>Page.</i>
General,	1— 12	1
Land Revenue,	13— 51	3
Attachments,	52— 82	12
Abkarree,	83— 84	24
Stamps,	85	25
Criminal Justice,	86— 92	25
Civil Justice,	93—114	27
Police,	115—134	31
Public Buildings,	135—144	36
District Jail,	145—150	38
Agency Jail,	151—178	39
Establishment,	179—183	46
Employment of Foreigners,	184	47
Salt,	185—190	47
Roads,	191—195	48
Grand Trunk Road,	196—214	49
Schools,	215	55
Iron,	216—220	55

MEMORANDUM
OF
PROPOSALS CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT.

PARA. 11. That if it be desired to drive out the Goruckpooree pice, now current in Hazareebaugh and the neighbouring Districts, pies, twelve to an anna, be issued, worth, within a small percentage, the intrinsic value of the Copper.

18. That the process for the recovery of arrears of revenue (sales not being allowed) should be embodied in a few concise Rules.

19. That if Butwaras are not to be allowed, the Orders of Government be obtained suspending the Butwara law.

20. That the Governor General's Agent be directed to inquire and report which of the Registers prescribed by the Board of Revenue are not suitable to the state of things in his Division, and when on Circuit to see that those declared to be suitable are regularly kept up.

37. That the Governor General's Agent be directed to send for and revise the proceedings connected with the settlement of nineteen resumed Mehals, which have been settled with those who caused the resumption proceedings, or farmers.

41. That the attached Mehal Kungalee should be settled under Regulation VII. of 1822.

45. That Mehal Gowa should be settled in the same manner.

48. That Mehals Kurdama and Bugreedee be settled in the same manner.

49 and 50. That the local Officers should systematically conform to the printed Settlement Rules, unless from local peculiarities they are found to be unsuitable.

78. That the Orders of Government, dated the 13th October 1834, be modified, and Mehals be sold in execution of decrees of Court, unless sale be suspended by order of the Government.

79. That it be declared that the Orders of the 13th October 1834 had no reference to under-tenures of any description, and that applications for the sale of such holdings be disposed of on their merits without any reference to the orders aforesaid.

84. Repeats the recommendation that the Abkaree Department of Hazareebaugh be for a time made over to Baboo Kalee Doss Paulit, late Superintendent of Abkaree, now Deputy Collector in Manbhoom.

91. Repeats the recommendation that the arrangement under which a Principal Sudder Ameen is located at Golah be superseded, and if that recommendation be not approved, recommends that a defined jurisdiction be set apart for the Principal Sudder Ameen, instead of his having jurisdiction common with the Principal Assistant over the whole District.

92. Repeats the recommendation that Moonsiffs should be invested with the powers of Assistant under Regulation IX. of 1807.

96. Repeats the recommendation that the Principal Sudder Ameen should be removed from Golah.

99. Recommends that if the Principal Sudder Ameen is to remain at Golah, his jurisdiction should be limited and defined.

111. Repeats the recommendation that the establishment allowance for Moonsiffs' Offices be increased.

112. Proposes that the Moonsiffs of Chittra and Kurrukdeea should shortly be pensioned.

113. That all miscellaneous and summary appeals from the orders of the Principal Assistant may be heard by the Deputy Commissioner.

123. That the attention of the Agent be directed to the state of the Police.

127. That the pay of the Police, for which the Rajah of Ramgurh is answerable, should be paid by the Rajah into the Treasury instead of direct to the Police Officers, and that the Police Officers should be regularly paid by the Assistant.

128. That the Police Reports furnished by the Principal Assistant should be confined to a precis of the most heinous cases and general remarks on the state of the Police.

131. That inquiries should be followed up respecting the nature of the engagements of the Rajah of Ramgurh to keep up an efficient Police, and measures for its improvement be taken with reference to the result of the investigations.

138. That the Kutcherry-house of the Principal Assistant be enlarged and a treasure-room built.

139. That a separate guard-house of mud be erected, or the building near the Kutcherry, now used as a record-room, repaired and made available as a guard-room.

141. That the house, which forms part of the Government godown, be allotted to the Moonsiff and Principal Sudder Ameen for a Kutcherry, till required for some other purpose.

142. That when thatched buildings are erected without windows, the roofs be always raised from the walls for the sake of light and ventilation.

144. That in future, before Deputy Magistrates are appointed, office room be provided for them.

147. That for the present no more prisoners than forty-eight should be employed on the roads of Hazareebaugh, that all the rest should be employed on the wall to be built round the Agency Jail.

149. That all prisoners sentenced to above six months' imprisonment, be sent to the great Jail, and only those sentenced to six months and less than six months, insane persons, and women, be kept in the District Jail.

154. That a wall be built round the Agency Jail.

155. That the plan of turning the Barracks into work-shops for prisoners be abandoned, and suitable work-shops erected in a more convenient situation.

156. That every man in the Jail, who knows no trade, should be made a blacksmith.

160. That if Mr. Gill, the jailor, does not learn enough of Hindoostanee to make himself understood, he be removed.

161. That the system of locking-up Burkundauzes at night, with the prisoners, be strictly prohibited.

162. That suitable accommodation in the Jail for females be provided.

164. That the Jail be made large enough to hold 1,400 prisoners, and all the work-shops built inside the wall.

166. That all the fetters, pick-axes, spades, &c., required in Bengal, be made at Hazareebaugh, and that Mr. Thurl, the Deputy Jailor, be sent to Calcutta to learn the art of working up iron.

171. That one of the writers in the Office of the Principal Assistant, should devote five days in each month to the preparation of the Returns furnished by the Assistant Surgeon.

172. That if Dressers are allowed in other Jail Hospitals, they may be allowed in the Hazareebaugh Jails.

175. That the floors of all the wards should be bricked.

177. That the Sepoy Hospital be removed outside the Jail.

180. That another Writer, on Rupees 20 per mensem, be allowed in the Office of the Principal Assistant.

183. That 2 Chuprassees and 17 Burkundauzes be reduced, and a second Kalassee allowed.

195. That instead of expending Rupees 1,000 per annum on the Govindpore road, Rupees 5,000 should be immediately expended in bridging the worst places on the road, and for five years, no further repairs than smoothing allowed.

198. That the Kutcherry at Govindpore, instead of being one large room, should be divided so as to provide rooms for records, &c.

200. That the Officers of the new Police should be authorized to hold inquiries, when crimes are committed on the road.

202. That the Digwars belonging to the old Police be removed from the road.

207. That a new Police Station be established between Muddoopore and Rungamuttee to be relieved every third day.

208. That a well be made at Muddoopore.

209. That a well should be sunk at Govindpore and the large tank deepened, it being nearly dry, when seen in March.

210. That the parapets of the road, where much raised near bridges, should be made of stone without cement, except the top layer, as the mud parapets are always washed away in the rains.

212. That a map of the road be lithographed and sold at a cheap rate for the use of travellers.

215. That cheap elementary School-books be distributed to the Village Schools.

220. That the information procured respecting the iron of Hazareebaugh, be communicated to the Railway Officers.

(Signed) HENRY RICKETTS.

HAZAREEBAUGH.

GENERAL.

THE area of the Hazareebaugh District is estimated to be 12,444* square miles, containing a population of 667,585 souls, being on an average 53 to a square mile. Though parts of the District are in a high state of cultivation, one may still travel a whole day's journey in several directions, without seeing a habitation, or a beegah of cleared land, except at the places where travellers usually halt.

2. More than half the District is held by the Rajah of Ramgurh. He pays a jumma of Rupees 28,023-4-1; his estimated rental is Rupees 242,965-2-0. There are but four other Zemindars, who pay above Rupees 1,000 land revenue.

3. The District may be said to be composed of the Ramgurh Estate.—

The great Pergunnah of Kurrukdeea, held by Ghatwals and others, at little more than a pepper-corn rent.—

Pergunnah Kendy, attached in consequence of the Rajah's encumbrances, with no hope of ever being released.—

Koonda, held Lakhraj.—

Kudorina, confiscated for felony.—

Bagreedee, ditto ditto.—

4. The Rajah of Ramgurh and the Tikait of Salgorah have learned to read Hindoostanee in the Persian character; the other proprietors are all ignorant and illiterate, quite wanting in all useful knowledge, and improvident and bad landlords.

5. There are no European Zemindars; Mr. Inman and Mr. Mackenzie have since 1849 been working a coal mine in Pergunnah Kurrukdeea to the North of Hazareebaugh, but the great distance of the mine from water carriage renders the success of the enterprize doubtful. Mr. Mackenzie has also endeavoured to work a copper mine in the same locality, but hitherto has made but little progress.

* This is the estimate of the Principal Assistant; the latest maps make the area less by about 1,500 miles, and the estimated area of all the Thanuas, added together, is less by 2,000 miles.

6. No indigo is grown; sugar-cane and cotton are cultivated in small quantities in scattered localities; a little safflower and turmeric are produced; oil-seeds and cotton are exported to the Eastward, and a considerable quantity of rice and ghee is sent to Behar.

7. Iron is found in several parts, and is exported on bullocks to all the Districts round Shahabad, Gya, Tirhoot, &c. Very good coal is procured in several places, but though it is superior to the Burdwan coal, the difficulties connected with transport have hitherto limited its consumption to within a few miles of the places where it is found.

8. Antimony mines at Sidpore, twelve or fourteen miles from Chittra, were worked for some years by Europeans half a century ago, but were abandoned; lead also is found, and mica, and rock crystal.

9. In a letter dated the 29th October last, the Principal Assistant, in answer to a call from the Accountant, explained the state of the copper currency in this District. He reported, that the Government copper pice are not generally current, but a rude native coinage, called Goruckpooree pice, of which from eighty to eighty-eight are exchanged for a Rupee; that of the whole copper currency of the District, one-eighth may be Government pice and seven-eighths these Goruckpooree pice; that in the large Bazars Government pice are usually procurable at the standard of sixty-four for a Rupee. The Principal Assistant represented, that the cause of these Goruckpooree pice being preferred to the Government pice was that the Government pice were "less fractional," and therefore not so well adapted to the wants of the people. Captain Simpson informed the Accountant, that the Goruckpooree pice were introduced from the Behar Districts by traders, and that he saw no means by which the Government pice could be introduced in supersession of the Goruckpooree pice, except by a Government copper coinage as fractional as the Goruckpooree pice and having a similar weight of metal. He further stated, that he was informed the pice were brought into the Behar Districts from Mirzapore, Goruckpore, and Butwal, in the Terrae of Nepal.

10. I found, on actual experiment, that of the Goruckpooree pice eighty-three weighed a seer, the current exchange being eighty-four for a Rupee, while sixty-four Government pice weighed one pice less than seven chittacks, or less than one-half. The Goruckpooree pice are merely square lumps of copper, with no device or inscription whatever, but a Native, when he has his eighty-four Goruckpooree pice, feels that he has the worth of a Rupee in his possession, whereas the intrinsic value of the

sixty-four pice, weighing one pice less than seven chittacks, being something less than half a Rupee, he has no faith in the exchangeable value of his copper, and he has some reason for his doubts. In many parts the Bunyas insist on ignoring the inscription, and will have no dealings without using the scales.

11. By all accounts, the people of these parts are much attached to these copper lumps, and except in the few considerable Bazars, they will take nothing else. A copper currency of pies,* equal to the intrinsic value of the copper within a small percentage, might drive away the Goruckpooree currency, but heavy penalties only would prevent its circulation till such a substitute be provided.

12. * * * * *

LAND REVENUE.

13. On the fixed Towjee there are eighty-eight Estates, paying Rupees 52,479-11-4 land revenue fixed in perpetuity, and on the fluctuating Towjee fifty-three Mehals, paying Rupees 2,044-6-0, so that the whole land revenue of the District, containing 12,000 square miles, is only Rupees 54,524-1-9, of which Rupees 28,023-4-10 is paid by one Zemin-dar, the Rajah of Ramgurh.

14. The Summary Suits instituted between 1848-49 and 1852-53,	
numbered,	480
Execution of decree cases,	226
Miscellaneous,	716
	1,422

being an average per year of 355. The work in the Revenue Department is light, considering the immense extent of the District and the number of the inhabitants.

15. The Rajah of Ramgurh holds his Territory at a very light jumma fixed in perpetuity. A large portion of the estate is held by Jagheer-dars, who pay him a very moderate rent, so that, for the most part, rents are easily collected, without the necessity of application to the Courts.

16. It appearing that sales for arrears of revenue were considered as prohibited, and that on an arrear accruing, the first process was a

* Twelve to an anna.

dustuck, and that if the dustuck was unsuccessful, the personal property of the defaulter was attached and sold, I inquired from the Principal Assistant, whether there were any orders of the Government, or of the Governor General's Agent prescribing this mode of realizing arrears, how many dustucks had been issued in the years 1852 and 1853, how many attachments had been ordered, and in how many cases the personals had been actually sold.

17. The Assistant reports, that the custom of issuing dustucks for the realization of land revenue has existed since 1834, when it was introduced by the Principal Assistant, Mr. Davidson; that a list of defaulters is brought forward once a month and dustucks issued; that no orders of the Agent or the Government are forthcoming; and that it is probable such may not exist. In the two years, 1852 and 1853, 408 dustucks were issued. In 400 cases, the arrear was recovered either immediately or within a limited period. In eight cases, orders for the attachment of personal property issued, but it was not found necessary in any case actually to proceed to sale.

18. Although as regards the majority of the Mehals of this District, there is no good reason why they should be exempted from the stringent process usual elsewhere, *viz.*, immediate sale should the arrear not be liquidated, nevertheless, as the revenue appears to be collected without loss, and all are so strongly opposed to the introduction of sales, I will not, merely with a view to uniformity of practice recommend a change, but the process to be observed should be carefully digested, embodied in a few concise Rules, and submitted for the approval of the Government.

19. The Assistant, in answer to my inquiries, reported that three Butwara cases had been brought forward in the Revenue Department of his Office during the last ten years; that all were disallowed and struck off the file; and that in fact, since the formation of the Agency, no Butwara has been carried into effect; and that the Agent had expressed an opinion, that Ghatwalee Mehals could not be subjected to Butwara. I am no advocate for increasing Butwaras more than is avoidable, but if in cases not coming under Regulation X. of 1800, Butwara is not to be allowed, the orders of the Government to that effect should be obtained.

20. I found that the Registers prescribed by the Orders of the Board of Revenue had not been kept up as regularly as they might have been.

Several are not applicable to the state of affairs in these Districts, but those applicable, and calculated to be useful, should be carefully prepared. The Registers have lately been revised by the Board, and detailed Orders issued respecting their preparation. The Governor General's Agent should be directed to report which Registers are not in his opinion suited to the circumstances of the Agency, and, when on circuit, should see that those which may be declared suitable are not neglected.

21. There are no cases under Regulation V. of 1812 in the Collector's Office, but it having come to my notice that cases for the sale of attached property were admitted by the Moonsiffs, I called for explanation. The reply I received was on these terms:—"It appears the Moonsiffs of this Division had always been entrusted with cases of attachment under the provisions of Regulation V. of 1812, and which are brought forward on the principle set forth in Regulation XVII. of 1793. The Moonsiffs appear to have been entrusted with such attachment cases since prior to the abolition of Zillah Ramgurh and proceeded in the same manner on the first formation of the Agency, but no special orders for their doing so are to be found in this Office, and may not exist. At first the mode of procedure after attachment was for the defaulter to obtain a certificate of attachment from the Moonsiff and present it to the Principal Assistant in the Revenue branch of his Office, when the case was investigated and disposed of under the provisions of Regulation V. of 1812. Since 1841, the Moonsiffs were instructed to receive cases for replevin under the provisions of Regulation VIII. of 1831 in the Civil Court and on Stamp paper of the ordinary value."

At the same time, the Principal Assistant sent a statement, showing that in 1852 and 1853, 597 attachment cases were disposed of by the Moonsiffs as follows:—

- 5 decided in favor of plaintiff and property sold.
- 85 security filed and suit instituted in Court.
- 235 struck off on Razeenama or receipts filed.
- 156 struck off on default.
- 114 still pending at the end of 1853.

22. On further inquiry it appeared, that on the 13th May 1841, the existing system was introduced by order of the Principal Assistant, who directed, that in future no cases should be admitted under Regulation V. of 1812, in the Revenue Department, but that ryots whose

property was attached after having given security, might sue, paying for the Stamp dues in the Moonsiff's Court under Regulation VIII. of 1831. In practice the procedure is as follows :—

23. The party claiming the arrear does not attach and apply to the Moonsiff to have the attached property sold ; the attachment is ordered by the Moonsiff, who issues a notice of from seven to fifteen days, calling on the defaulter to pay the arrear claimed, or furnish security to contest the claim in the Civil Court. If the defaulter attends and gives security, the attached property is not released but given in charge to the surety, and the defaulter is allowed fifteen days, in which to institute his suit on quarter Stamp paper in the Civil Court. If the suit is not filed within the time allowed, the property is sold, and the security must produce it, or is held answerable for the amount. In the Office of the Moonsiff of Hazareebaugh, on a party claiming an arrear and praying for attachment, a preliminary inquiry is made into the correctness of the claim by an examination of witnesses, whom the party is directed to produce. These depositions are recorded, then the order for attachment issues.

24. If security is not furnished, or if security is furnished and a suit not instituted within the time allowed, the attached property is sold.

25. This account of the proceedings is furnished by the Assistant.

26. It is clear, that in thus shutting the Summary Court against the ryots, the Assistant exceeded his powers. He should have reported to the Governor General's Agent, that he was of opinion, investigation by the Moonsiff in a regular suit was preferable to summary investigation in the Revenue Department. The Agent, if he agreed with him, might have recommended to the Government the adoption of the Assistant's plan, and the Government, by virtue of the power vested in the Executive by Regulation XIII. of 1833, might have authorized the innovation, but no other authority could suspend the law, and the under-holders have, for thirteen years, been deprived of the summary redress against a wrongful attachment to which by law they are entitled.

27. Many are of opinion, that to abolish the summary jurisdiction of the Revenue Department, and to have all claims for arrears of rent introduced as regular suits in the Moonsiff's Court, would be a judicious reform, but under the local reform introduced in Hazareebaugh, the poorer party is driven into the Civil Court. A ryot who cannot afford to pay the Stamp fee has no redress against attachment, however wrongful it may be.

28. I have before remarked, that the control of the Agent has not been as intimate and immediate as it should be. This unauthorized and illegal system should not have remained so long unknown.

29. The remedy I would apply is that which I have already recommended in reporting on Chota Nagpore. I would make use of the Moonsiffs, in all Departments, vested with the power of a Deputy Collector. A Moonsiff might admit these suits instituted on the part of under-holders and cultivators to contest attachments as summary suits and try them summarily under Regulation V. of 1812. Their decisions would of course be subject to appeal to the Principal Assistant in the Revenue Department in his Office. The alterations in the existing system will be, that suits will be admitted on an eight-anna Stamp, instead of quarter the full Stamp fee, and will be tried summarily, instead of as regular suits.

30. On the 31st July 1848, the Agent directed the Principal Assistant to attach the whole of Gadee Latakee in Kurrukdeea, and forwarded for his information a copy of his letter to the Government. The attachment was made on the grounds, that a female could not hold a Gadee. The estate had passed, by a sale for arrears in 1804, out of the hands of the original Tikaites, and the heir of the purchaser being a female, the Agent ruled that she could not succeed.

31. The Orders of the Government, dated the 5th February 1849, directed that a settlement should be concluded with the heiress of the purchaser at a light jumma for ten years.

32. On the 15th May 1850, the Commissioner instructed the Assistant, in conformity with orders received from Government after correspondence with the Board of Revenue, to call upon Mussumut Ameeroon Nissa, the claimant of the tenure, to consent to pay an increased jumma to Government in lieu of Ghatwal service, and if she refused, to institute a resumption suit against her ; the notice was to be for one month.

33. On the 30th October 1850, the Agent told the Assistant, that her offer to pay Rupees 200 more than the former jumma could not be accepted, but that if she would pay Rupees 2,100 in perpetuity, it should be recommended for approval.

34. On the 30th April 1851, the Agent directed the Assistant to report what revenue was then actually paid by the Gadee, and under what arrangement it was demanded.

35. On the 23rd September 1851, the Board ruled, that the negotiation with the claimant having failed, a regular suit for resumption

must be instituted, and any collections made in excess of the former jumma returned.

36. It appears, on inquiry, that the case was only brought on the file of resumption cases on the 21st July 1852; a reply has been filed on the part of the defendant, but no proofs have been produced, and up to this time, the case is still pending. No reason is assigned why a year was allowed to elapse before bringing the case on the file, or why nearly two years have been allowed to pass without any step having been made towards a final adjudication.

37. Observing from the Returns received, that many resumed Mehals had been settled on temporary leases with the owners, or let to farmers, I called for explanation why the owners had been excluded. The Assistant reported, that in thirty-four cases the settlement of resumed Mehals appeared to have been made with the former proprietors or persons actually in possession at the time of resumption; that in nineteen cases the settlement had been made with Ticcadars or the parties who, as informants, caused the institution of the resumption suits; that in sixteen of those cases the proprietors failed to apply or bring forward any claim to settlement; that no permanent settlement had been made in consequence of the uncultivated state of the Mehals resumed, and that the Governor General's Agent had, on one occasion, declared that he had no authority to allow a permanent settlement. I recommend that the Governor General's Agent should be directed to call for and revise the proceedings connected with these settlements, and to cause the restoration to possession of the parties who were in possession when the resumption suits were instituted, if they were not formally and legally dispossessed, and if restoration is feasible without injustice to those now under engagements.

38. No attempt has been made to carry out the Board's Orders and plan for the arrangement and registry of the records, and without assistance and further Office accommodation, it might have been difficult to effect the system of arrangement prescribed. I found the papers methodically arranged.

39. The Deposit Accounts have been revised under the Board's Orders, and out of Rupees 71,495-4-3, no less than Rupees 67,258-7-11 will be transferred to "Land Revenue." This is the revenue of attached and confiscated estates. It should not have been held in deposit at all, but credited at once under the head of "Land Revenue." It has been intimated

to the Assistant, that the new jumma of these Mehals should be brought on the Towjee forthwith. It is desirable that the attention of the Agent should be directed to this subject, lest it be lost sight of.

40. Observing in the list of estates two attached and two confiscated Mehals, I called for all the papers connected with them, in order to learn the system of management pursued in such cases.

41. On the 19th July 1848, the Governor General's Agent directed that this Mehal should be attached, on the ground Kungalee—Attached. that it was a Ghatwallee Mehal, and had been improperly alienated by its possessor, who had no right to dispose of it. Attachment was ordered by means of the Darogah of Police, who, having carried the orders into execution, reported the attachment of 5,952 beegahs of land assessed at Rupees 1,909-11-9. The Mehal was subsequently leased to five parties for five years, at a jumma of Rupees 970 per annum. The term has expired, and no further settlement has been made, so that at this time no one is answerable for the year's revenue. Orders have been issued to the Darogah to ascertain the exact amount of Mofussil rental.

42. I disapprove of such attachments and investigations being conducted by means of Darogahs of Police, who have full occupation in the Department to which they belong. As four suits are pending in the Civil Court for the reversal of the attachment, it is not worth while to incur the expense of a settlement, till those suits shall have been disposed of. In the event of the attachment being confirmed, the Mehal may be measured and assessed, in conformity with the rules of settlement prescribed for the Regulation Provinces.

43. On the 7th June 1847, the orders of the Government having been received for the attachment of this Mehal, an Gowa. order was issued to the Darogah of Police to make the attachment, and at the same time an Ameen was appointed. It does not appear to have been determined what part of the duties each was to perform. On the 6th and 16th July 1847, the Agent directed that the whole should be measured and the assets ascertained. In August 1847, a jumma-bundee was submitted, amounting to Rupees 9,090-8-2, but no measurement was made. On the 4th May 1848, a settlement, by which the jumma assessed amounted to Rupees 10,552-9-5, was submitted for the approval of the Agent, who confirmed the settlement for five years.

44. Rohu Sing having sued the Government, and obtained a decree for possession, the Orders of the Government, dated the 26th January 1853, directed that a settlement should be made with him at fair rates. The Principal Assistant, on receiving these orders, reported to the Agent, that as he had the jumma-bundee of the villages of the estate for several years, there could be little difficulty in immediately carrying the instructions into effect. The Agent replied, that as it appeared a detailed settlement could not conveniently be immediately made, a temporary settlement for one year, or for such longer period as might prove to be expedient, should be completed.

45. A temporary settlement was accordingly made for two years, and the Principal Assistant, in his letter of the 11th March, desired to be furnished with instructions as to the course to be pursued on the expiration of the lease. I recommend that the Estate should be measured and assessed in conformity with the Settlement Rules prevalent in the Regulation Provinces. I observe, that in the temporary settlement, the Principal Assistant provides four Digwars to protect the Trunk Road at an expense of Rupees 144 per annum. These Officers are no longer necessary; they should be dismissed, and the Rupees 144 added to the jumma of the Mehal.

46. These Mehals were attached on the 13th September 1840, in consequence of the owner having been concerned in dacoity, and on the 26th March 1849, the confiscation was confirmed by the Government. The attachment was made by the Darogah of Police, who reported the Mofussil rental to be Rupees 3,288-10-0. On the strength of the Darogah's papers, the estate was farmed for one year, then for three years, for five years, for one year, and then for three years to the end of 1262. The jumma has increased from Rupees 3,904-6-1 to Rupees 4,485-12-0.

47. I find, that on the 30th March 1850, the Agent informed the Principal Assistant, that "no data had yet been gained on which the settlement for a term of years, as recommended by him, can be effected, with a proper regard to all interests concerned; that it was his duty to collect such data on the spot in the next cold season, according to instructions with which he would be furnished; and that in the meantime, the settlement, with all the lease-holders, should be renewed for a year." On the 16th May 1851, the Agent again wrote—"If the requisite data be still wanting for a settlement, as indicated in my letter No. 91, dated

"30th March 1850, you will be so good as to renew the current settlements for the coming year 1259, and proceed in the cold season to collect on the spot detailed information on those points, in which it is essential to the stability and justice of an arrangement of longer duration." In the 5th paragraph of his letter of the 29th September 1851, addressed to the Governor General's Agent, the Principal Assistant wrote thus—"I beg you will oblige me, by letting me know the nature of the data referred to in your letter No. 146, of the 6th May last: the instructions referred to, in the concluding part of the 1st paragraph of your letter No. 90, of the 30th March 1850, were not, I believe, subsequently received by my officiating predecessor, and I will be much obliged by your letting me know the nature of your wishes as to the data therein referred to." These data have not been furnished, and apparently the Principal Assistant has not been told what data were required.

48. There is no reason whatever why these Mehals should not be measured and assessed, as they would be, if situated in the Regulation Provinces. I recommend, that the Governor General's Agent be instructed to cause a settlement to be made in strict conformity with the printed Rules, or to show cause why the Rules are not suitable to the circumstances of the Mehal. The management of the Government property in this Division should serve for the instruction and guidance of the Zemindars in each district, whereas the authorities seem to have acted, as if they supposed, that because the management of the rude Zemindars of the District was rude, therefore rude management must be more suitable than a digested and improved system.

49. I have given the details of those cases to show that the system is loose and unbusiness-like, devoid of method or rule. There are very concise and plain Rules for the conduct of settlements. The Assistant should study these Rules, and make his settlement in conformity with them, unless he should find the provisions unsuited to local peculiarities, in which case he should represent the nature of the peculiarities to the Agent, and describe the course of proceeding which he thinks should be followed, instead of conforming to the Rules observed elsewhere.

50. The Superintendency does not appear to me to have been as intimate as it should be. It is not enough for the Governor General's Agent to hear appeals: he must make himself thoroughly acquainted with the system of administration in each of the Offices under him; secure uniformity of action, where a uniform system can work with

efficiency and where variety of practice is called for; take care that the various systems allowed are good in themselves, and as far as may be consistent with each other.

51. The present Commissioner, Mr. Allen, is well acquainted with the systems of the settled and unsettled Provinces. He should very carefully observe all the proceedings of the District Officers under him, connected with khas management and settlement, and on all occasions, insist on the strict observance of such of the printed Rules as are adapted to the Agency, and, with the sanction of Government, supply the place of the unsuitable provisions by local rules suited to any local peculiarities which may exist.

ATTACHMENTS.

52. The Orders of the 13th October 1834, on the subject of sales of land in execution of decrees, noticed at some length in my Reports on Maunbhoom and Chota Nagpore, having been issued chiefly with reference to Pergunnah Kurrukdeea, in the Hazareebaugh District, in order to satisfy myself of the working of the system, and to enable me to report confidently respecting it, I called for all the original papers connected with the eighteen Mehals now under attachment, as shown in the statement annexed, and carefully examined them.

List

List of Estates attached in the Office of the Principal Assistant Agent Governor General of Hazareebaugh Division.

Number and Names of Estates.	Date of Attachment.	Annual Rental.	For what amount the Estate under attachment.	Amount of Government Revenue payable from each of the Estates annually.	Amount of Revenue payable from the Turents to the Revenue Prorietors annually.
1 Sooltana, &c., in Perg. Chuppa, &c., ...	26th July 1841, ...	136 14 0	2086 7 5	22 6 5	86 6 4
2 Koorkoota, &c., in Perg. Kendee, ...	14th Sept. 1842, ...	231 6 4	5039 10 6	12 12 10	...
3 Toolbool, &c., in Perg. Kendee, ...	6th Sept. 1845 & {	1119 7 1	16582 7 11	...	...
4 Ungoolly, in Perg. Gola, ...	1st April 1845, ...	97 4 0	847 4 0	92 2 5	130 8 6
5 Gadee Bhorkutta, in Perg. Kurrukdeea, ...	6th Sept. 1846, ...	461 0 0	16983 15 1	...	134 9 0
6 Salgaoo, &c., in Perg. Chuppa, ...	9th Feb. 1847, ...	740 13 2	4403 8 7	37 12 3	133 13 0
7 Kawol, &c., in Perg. Kendee, ...	22nd Mar. 1847, ...	934 13 0	3790 14 11	...	432 8 9
8 Sindwary, &c., in Perg. Ahory, ...	26th July 1847, ...	715 0 0	6379 6 7	...	...
9 Mowrangee, &c., in Perg. Korunpoora, ...	22nd Jan. 1848, ...	1112 0 0	4765 8 3	11 11 9	...
10 Gariah, in Perg. Kendee, ...	25th Jan. 1848, ...	63 0 0	1498 10 0	116 15 0	33 12 0
11 Gadee Dighe, in Perg. Kurrukdeea, ...	18th Mar. 1848, ...	257 0 0	792 12 9	...	...
12 Purirah, &c., in Perg. Chye, ...	20th Nov. 1848, ...	180 6 0	711 9 0	...	...
13 Puchrah, in Perg. Korunpoora, ...	2nd July 1849, ...	161 0 0	812 12 3	...	...
14 Saotah, in Perg. Juggessor, ...	10th Dec. 1849, ...	65 0 0	108 9 0	182 11 10	...
15 Gadee Police, in Perg. Kurrukdeea, ...	19th Sept. 1851, ...	908 1 9	1698 13 5	...	...
16 Umsratoo, &c., in Perg. Chuppa, ...	9th Mar. 1852, ...	311 0 0	2632 5 3	1393 9 11	...
17 Gadee Satgaoo, in Perg. Kurrukdeea, ...	22nd Sept. 1853, ...	9936 0 6	13151 6 9	46 8 9	...
18 Gadee Gara, in Perg. Kurrukdeea, ...	1st Oct. 1853, ...	2036 9 0	6368 7 0	...	...
Total, Co.'s Rs....		19466 15 4	85654 8 8	1916 11 2	951 9 7

(Signed) J. SIMPSON,
Pl. A. A. G. General.

PRINCIPAL A. A. G. GENL.'S OFFICE,
HAZAREEBAUGH DIVISION,
The 20th February 1854.

I think a brief precis of some of the cases will convey a more correct impression of the system which has prevailed than any description I could write. I will, therefore, in as few words as possible, state the circumstances of Nos. 1 to 11 of the eighteen attached Mehals. They are all attached in execution of decrees of the Civil Court.

53. Summary adjustments of accounts under those Orders, such as are admitted and disposed of in the other Divisions of the Agency, not being now usual in the Hazareebaugh Division, I inquired from the Assistant under what orders the alteration was introduced, and when, and how it had worked in practice. He replied, that "cases of wasilat, under the provisions of the Government letter of the 13th of October 1834, had been decided in the Hazareebaugh Division, both as regular actions and summary suits, and were formerly brought forward at the option of parties having such claims in the Principal Assistant's Court, but that the late Agent, Mr. Crawford, in his letter of the 17th July 1850, ruled and directed, that such suits, under the provisions of the letter of 13th October 1834, should not be instituted without first obtaining his special sanction to the measure." I told the Assistant, I presumed he intended to represent that a "wasilat" case would not be admitted to be tried summarily without the permission of the Agent, to which he replied that "the orders of the late Agent were indiscriminately with reference to all cases under the provisions of the Government letter of the 13th October, none of which suits he considered could be instituted without obtaining his (the Agent's) express orders and sanction to the measure. This was a view of the matter which had not formerly been entertained by either the former Agents or Principal Assistants."

54. The Principal Assistant mistakes the intention of the orders. The Agent cannot, and never intended, to prescribe what regular suits parties might institute. I have proposed, that such inquiries should no longer be allowed as summary investigations; but of course regular Civil suits, instituted to obtain adjustment of Account, must be admitted and decided on their merits according to law. It appears necessary that the Assistant should be instructed, that regular suits for adjustment of Account must be admitted as a matter of course.

55. I proceed to give a precis of eleven of the cases of attachment now in force.

56. This land is held rent-free by the defendant, under the Rajah of Ramgurh. The defendant is a Brahmin. It is situated in six different places.

1. Sooltana.

57. The plaintiff holds a decree for Rupees 875 principal, and Rupees 521 interest on a bond. The decree is dated 11th June 1839. On the 12th June 1841, the decree-holder applied for the attachment of this land, the property of the defendant, and on the 26th of July 1841, it was brought under attachment by the appointment of an Ameen to call on the rent-payers to pay their rents into Court. Engagements were accordingly taken from each by the Ameen, but no inquiry was made as to whether the rents, which the Ticcadars agreed to pay, were the rents they ought to pay or not. No investigation of any sort was instituted. The estate having remained under attachment for ten years, during which time the plaintiff had not received more than the interest to which he was entitled under his decree, the Principal Assistant, on the 30th May 1851, ruled that the decree-holder should receive interest only to the amount of the principal. No reference was had to the date of the institution of the suit, or to the date of the decree; a summary order of that date ordered that no more interest than the amount of the principal should be paid, and an account was made out accordingly as follows :—

	Sa. Rs.	Co.'s Rs.	As. P.
Principal,	875	0	0
Interest,	875	0	0
		1,750	0 0
Batta,		116	10 8
Costs,		130	15 3
Costs in execution,		63	1 6
Pleaders' fees,		25	12 0
		2,086	7 5
Due under another decree,		74	11 9
		2,161	3 2
Paid at different times since the decree,		1,083	4 0
		1,077	15 2
In deposit,		77	2 0
Carried forward,		1000	13 2

Brought forward,	1,000	13	2
Since paid,	149	4	0
Still due,	851	9	2
Company's Rupees,			

58. The Order of the 30th May 1851, ruling that the decree-holder should have no more interest than the amount of his principal, was in fact setting aside the decree, and therefore altogether unjustifiable. Since May 1851, the decree-holder has received Rupees 149-4-0, at which rate his claim will be liquidated in about six years more, but the stoppage of interest was unwarranted. The interests of the defendant have been consulted at the expense of the decree-holder. The Rajah of Ramgurnh would have objected to the sale of this tenure as being held by the defendant as his servant.

59. The Principal Assistant having been called upon to report on this case, which is the one alluded to in my Report on Chota Nagpore, represented that some of the villages have been attached since 1845, others since 1851, in execution of decrees to a large amount; that the proceeds of the villages were ascertained by an examination of the pottahs of the Ticcadars and Farmers; that of 149 villages held by the defendant, ten only were found to admit of attachment, the remainder having been either sold, mortgaged, or given in "hirat"; that several cases of mortgage were, with the permission of the Agent, disposed of under the Orders of the Government, dated 13th October 1834, and such of the villages as were released from the hands of the mortgagees, were brought under attachment; that the rental of the attached villages is Rupees 1,119-7-1; that the rental of the villages not attached is about Rupees 2,679; that the liabilities amount to about Rupees 30,000; and that Rupees 319 per annum being allowed to the Rajah, the proceeds available for the creditors would be only Rupees 719 per annum, which would liquidate the debts in about forty years, but that, should some of the mortgaged villages be recovered, the assets may increase.

60. In this case also, the interests and the legal rights of the creditors are considered entitled to little consideration. It appears to be taken for granted that interest is to cease. The insolvent Rajah is to have his Rupees 319, while numerous creditors with claims to the amount of Rupees 30,000 are to have Rupees 719 divided among them. Again, the

interests of the defendant have been consulted to the prejudice of the rights of the decree-holders.

61. In this case, the defendant was a Ghatwal, holding a Ghatwallee tenure under the Rajah of Ramgurnh; objections would have been urged against the sale of this tenure. After the lapse of ten years, the whole debt, with the exception of Rupees 79-10-6, has been realized, but it is observable that interest has been excluded from the account.

62. On the 13th March 1839, Beneeram obtained a decree against Thakoor Brijmohun Sing for Rupees 2,758, principal and interest, till the principal was liquidated. The defendant having taken no measures for satisfying the claim, on the 2nd July 1845, the Assistant asked the permission of the Agent to attach the defendant's landed property. This was accorded. On the 20th September 1845, the defendant gave a list of the villages of his estate, showing which were already mortgaged and which were liable for the plaintiff's claim. No inquiries were made, whether the defendant possessed more villages than were contained in his schedule, or whether those which he represented to be already mortgaged could not be held liable to the decree. On the 4th February 1846, orders were issued to the Darogah of Police to bring the villages in the list furnished by the defendant under attachment. This was done, and the collections made through the Darogah of Police.

63. In the proceeding of the Agent, dated the 1st of December 1845, in which he authorized the attachment of the estate, he instructed the Assistant, that he was to bring into the account a little ("Cheezee") interest, or no interest at all, as he thought proper. On the 8th of June 1850, the Assistant acting on the orders contained in the above-mentioned proceeding of 1845, ruled that 6 per cent. interest, and no more, should be allowed in making up the Accounts. The decree-holder, dissatisfied with this order limiting the interest to Rupees 6, appealed to the Deputy Commissioner; he ruled, that the original decree of the 13th March 1839 (though it had been confirmed in appeal) was wrong, and should not be executed at all. On appeal to the Sudder Court, this order, forbidding execution, was reversed, but no notice was taken of the Agent's order saying that no interest should be paid if the Assistant approved, or of the Assistant's order, limiting the inter-

est to 6 per cent. The villages continue under attachment. The collections made by the Darogah of Police amount to Rupees, 461 0 0
 The Government rent is 92 2 5
 (Not upon these villages only, but upon the whole estate, though these villages are now made answerable for the whole.)

				368	13	7
Allowance to the defendant,	...	...	...	120	0	0
			Remains, ...	248	13	7

This sum remains to be divided among several decree-holders, who have claims unsatisfied to the amount of Rupees 16,983-15-1. Again, the interests of the defendant have been consulted to the prejudice of the rights of the decree-holders.

64. On the 6th March 1846, Ameer Khan obtained a decree against Musst. Doop Kunswar, for Rupees 1,068-10-10, principal and interest, and further interest till the decree should be completely executed.
 6.—Salgara.

65. On the 22nd August 1846, the decree-holder applied for the attachment of the Jagheer land held by the defendant under the Rajah of Ramgurh in payment of Rupees 1,573-10-0 principal and interest payable under the decree.

66. On the 26th August 1846, the Jemadar of the Police of Hazareebaugh was directed to bring the lands under attachment by taking engagements from the rent-payers to pay their rents into Court. This was done.

67. On the 15th May 1851, the Principal Assistant ruled in a proceeding of that date, that although the decree was for principal and interest till the debt was paid, it was not proper that such interest should be recovered. A new account was therefore made, showing the sum to which the decree-holder was entitled to be Rupees 1,153-2-10, of which Rupees 954-11-8 having been paid, Rupees 228-7-2 remained for realization. The lands are still under attachment. In this case also to make out a new Account, opposed to the ruling of the decree, was altogether irregular, and consulting the interest of the defendant to the prejudice of the right of the decree-holder; the Rajah of Ramgurh would have objected to the sale of this Jagheer.

68. Kurruck Ram Tewaree obtained a decree on the 24th August 1846, against Baboo Thakoor Sing for Rupees 1,920, principal and interest, and Rupees 306-15-0 costs.
 7.—Kawal.
 The decree ruled, that 6 per cent. interest should be levied, provided the decree-holder was not dilatory in taking out execution.

69. In December 1847, with the permission of the Agent, the landed property of the defendant, (villages held under the Rajah of Kendy,) was brought under attachment. On the 11th June 1850, the Principal Assistant ruled, that as the defendant owed a very large sum, and all his property was under attachment, interest should cease. From this order the decree-holder appealed to the Deputy Commissioner, who, on the 23rd August 1850, ruled, that as the principal had not been all collected, it was premature to pass any order respecting the interest, therefore the order must be reversed, but that when the principal had been paid, the Assistant might pass a suitable order regarding the interest, so that the merchant cannot tell whether he is to have any interest for his money or not. In this case also, the interests of the merchant have been treated as altogether secondary to the interest of the Zemindar.

70. On the 27th December 1845, Sulal Sing obtained a decree against Chowdree Narain Sing for Rupees 707-10-5, principal, interest and costs, execution having been taken out on the 14th September 1846. On the 13th October, Chowdree Narain Sing presented a petition, requesting that his property might be attached, and all his debts liquidated from the proceeds. The Agent sanctioned the attachment. The debts amounted to Rupees 3,388-6-7. The rent payable to the Rajah of Ramgurh is Rupees 133-13-0. An allowance of Rupees 100 per annum was fixed for the support of the defendant, and on the 27th August 1849, all interest stopped, on the grounds of the debts being heavy, and the property under attachment. Up to the 22nd June 1853, Rupees 2,441-5-0 had been liquidated.

71. Gourluker Sahir, on the 14th January 1840, obtained a decree for principal and interest, Rupees 3,050, against Chowdree Gourdeal Doss; without any good reason assigned, the interest was restricted to 8 per cent.
 9.—Nowrangee.

72. On the 30th May 1847, the case having in the meantime been twice struck off the file, the decree-holder applied to have the defendant's landed property, a tenure held under the Rajah of Ramgurh and paying to him Rupees 432-8-7, attached. As usual orders were issued to

the Police Darogah to make the attachment; this was done. On the 4th September 1849, the Principal Assistant ruled, that as it appeared Rupees 5,013-13-0 was due under the decree, and that after discharging the rent due to the Rajah but little remained for the creditors, all interest should cease, and that as the defendant was a man of respectability, he should be allowed Rupees 120 per annum for his maintenance. The Rajah of Ramgurnh would have objected to the sale of this tenure.

73. The papers of this case having been forwarded to the Deputy Commissioner, I had no opportunity of examining them, but it appears from the statement furnished, that the debt is Rupees 1,498, the proceeds of the land attached Rupees 63, of which Rupees 11-11-9 is rent, leaving Rupees 51-4-3, which will provide for one-half the interest. Such being the case, continued attachment can never give the decree-holder his due.

74. On the 29th of November 1843, Jhunker Tewaree obtained a decree against Musst. Tekaitnee Doorpa for Rupees 544-6-0½. Interest was decreed at 6 per cent., and that was made conditional on the decree-holder not delaying execution.

On the 23rd May 1845, the decree-holder applied for the attachment of the defendant's property.

On the 10th July 1846, he applied again.

On the 27th May 1847, application was made to the Agent for sanction to the attachment, which was accorded.

On the 27th May 1851, the Assistant ruled, that the decree-holder not having applied without delay for the execution of his decree, he should have no interest subsequent to the date of attachment. So interest has ceased. In two or three years the principal will be liquidated.

75. In 1851, the late Agent, Mr. Crawford, circulated Rules for the guidance of the Principal Assistant in the management of attached property. They provided that a statement of the rental should be demanded from the proprietor, also a statement of his liabilities; that the Assistant should determine how the lands were to be held, whether to be assigned to creditors or held rent-free; that lands might be leased, provided the farmer offered to pay 95 per cent. of the estimated rental, and gave security; that if Khas Tehseel was resorted to, Tehseeldars were to be paid a percentage increasing with the percentage of the gross rental which they collected; that Tehseeldars should be nominated for the approval of the Agent; that Quarterly and Annual Returns should be

furnished; that *all proceedings recorded in prosecution of the duties under notice should be marked as belonging to the Political Department.*

76. The Rules, as far as they go, are entirely free from objection, except the last. Without the special sanction of the Government, the Agent had no authority to direct that all proceedings, connected with the management of estates attached under execution of decrees of Court, should be removed from the Department to which they legitimately belonged, and regarded as belonging to the Political Department. By virtue of the authority exercised under the provisions of Regulation XIII. of 1833, the Executive Government directed, in the letter dated 13th October 1834, that certain estates, under certain circumstances, instead of being sold in execution of decrees, should be attached for the benefit of the creditors. The same authority might direct that the attachments should be conducted in a particular manner, not in conformity with the law, but the Agent certainly went beyond his powers when he directed that all proceedings connected with attachments should be held to be political proceedings.

77. It does not seem necessary to detail the circumstances of the remaining seven cases, nor to make any lengthened remarks on the foregoing details. The Orders of the 13th October 1834, never contemplated proceedings of this description. The Darogahs have more than they can do in the Department to which they belong. To employ them to manage attached property, were it unobjectionable in other respects, would be extremely objectionable as occupying time, which ought to be given to the Police, which, as will appear under the head "Police," requires all their attention. It has not been thought necessary to institute inquiries, whether a defendant has given a correct list of his villages or a correct statement of his rents. On an attachment being made, the Darogah of Police has been ordered to take engagements from the Ticcadars and ryots, that they will pay to the Court; they have entered into the engagements required, and according to those engagements collections have been made. They may embrace all the rent procurable; they may be one-half. No Accounts are kept. Remittances received are sent to the Collectorship to be held in deposit till called for. When money is wanted to pay the decree-holders, it is sent for, but there are no Debit and Credit Accounts. When the head of the Office has to inquire how the Account stands, it is necessary to hunt

through the ponderous nuthee, and by noting the remittances received from the Darogah, and the payments made, to discover the balance, and in this way, the Quarterly and Annual Accounts required by the Agent are made up.

A. regular "jumma-khuruch" Account of each estate should be kept in the Office, and each remittance be entered therein as received.

78. In reporting on Chota Nagpore, I have represented, that if attachments are to be continued, these abuses must be rectified, and the attachments made conducive to the benefit of all and productive of an improved system of management in the country, instead of being a subject of reproach; but I have no longer any doubt as to the course that should be pursued. I would modify the Orders of the 13th October 1834, and rule that after the 1st January 1855, all estates, *i. e.* Mehals paying revenue direct to the Government, should be sold in execution of decrees in this Agency as elsewhere, unless the Agent considered, that urgent political reasons demanded that the sale should be stayed, in which case he should submit a full Report of the case for the orders of the Government. In other words, I would have the Government the only authority to suspend the law. The authority delegated to the Agent has been abused. Though the Orders of the 17th of July 1851 distinctly said, that the Orders of the 13th October 1834 were limited to the Tickaits of Kurrukdeea, and other urgent cases; that the object of the Rules was the prevention of disturbances; that the retention of the lands in the hands of the old Zemindars, which the Agent treated as the object of the Orders was but the means to the object; that the Orders were not to be applied beyond the case of the Tickaits of Kurrukdeea, excepting in cases of urgency, they have continued to be generally applied. The original intention was, that except in Kurrukdeea, sales in execution of decrees should take place, unless it was supposed that disturbances would follow. I would adhere to such intention, and make it incumbent on the Agent to show from whence, and in what shape, disturbances would come, if the Executive did not interfere to prevent the sale desired. I would not exclude Kurrukdeea from the new system. I would not have one law for Kurrukdeea and another law for the remaining Pergunnahs under the Agent.

79. With respect to under-tenures, I would declare, that the Orders of the 13th October 1834 had no concern with under-tenures, that they were not under any circumstances to be attached; and that applications

for the sale of such holdings were to be disposed of according to the spirit of the Regulations. If they were on inquiry found to be subject to liens on the part of others, not the debtors, incompatible with a transfer by sale, applications for sale should be refused and the debtor subjected to such personal duration as might be calculated to make him use his best endeavours to satisfy the claim against him.

80. There is no occasion for alarm lest the many references made by the Governor General's Agent, with a view to procure orders for declaring a Mehal exempt from sale, should be numerous and occupy much time. It is my belief, that there will not be a reference once in two years, and that the exemption sought will not be granted once in ten. Within a few years, sale will become as much the rule here as elsewhere, though the Government will retain the power to interfere and stop a sale, should peculiar circumstances of political emergency call for its exercise. I would have the revised Rules held applicable to all applications for the sale of estates paying revenue to Government, that may be preferred after the 1st January next, till then Mehals now under attachment to remain attached as heretofore. With regard to under-tenures now under attachment, I would have them disposed of at once under the new Rule, and either sold or released, as appeared just with reference to the rights of all parties concerned. Of course all orders passed by the Judicial authorities for selling under-tenures, or for exempting them from sale, will be appealable, like all other miscellaneous orders connected with the execution of decrees.

81. Though I find fault with the abuses which have been allowed, as sanctioned by the Orders of the 13th October 1834, it is to be borne in mind that the principle has been "the preservation of tranquillity, by maintaining, if possible, the Jungle Chiefs in their estates. More attention should have been paid to the warning not to let the rude Zemindars become impressed with the idea that they will be supported by the Courts in refusing payment of just demands, which their own perverseness may have kept unliquidated for a length of time," but the spirit of Colonel Ouseley's administration was indulgence to all connected with the land; and the lower Courts have learned to think that the transfer of a ryot's jote must cause an insurrection.

82. In justice to Mr. Crawford, I should say that the abuses of the system were diminished during his administration, and by prescribing the transmission annually of a statement of attached estates, he had laid

the foundation for further improvements. In the 4th paragraph of his letter of the 7th of May 1853, Mr. Crawford reported, that he encouraged a hope that the system may be gradually abolished altogether. It will not exist long, if my proposal is adopted, that in each instance of the law being suspended the Agent shall obtain the sanction of the Government to the exemption.

* * * * *

ABKAREE.

83. In 1834-35, the Abkaree Revenue in this District was Rupees 26,867-10-8½. In 1848-49, it rose to Rupees 39,736-1-4½, and in 1852-53, fell to Rupees 24,750-1-7. In 1834-35, the number of settlements was 372, in 1848-49, 426, in 1852-53, 392. The shops are let separately on licences for one year, and this arrangement has uniformly prevailed, except in the years 1840-41 to 1842-43, when the whole were let to two farmers. It is worthy of remark, that during this period, the revenue increased from Rupees 22,325 to Rupees 27,832. In explanation of the falling off, the Assistant writes thus to the Agent, "I can only state, that the unfavorable harvest and seasons must have been the chief cause of arrear, because although the Abkaree Revenue in eight or ten years previously had gradually increased to nearly double the original jumma, at which it was when I first took charge of the District, and notwithstanding the increased extra revenue derived from the Mehal, the balance at the close of each successive year was but inconsiderable, and in many cases a great portion in these recovered. This however has not been the case the last three years, since when a decided increasing arrear has arisen, and it is urged, on all hands, that the want of means, or badness of the season and failure of crops, has given rise to this arrear, which I must believe as chiefly causing it; although the undivided attention of an Officer, whose time was less burdened with other duties than my own, might, I think, tend to improve the Department." Again, Captain Simpson says—"I would with diffidence suggest, that the best means of improving the administration of the Mehal, would be to place it under a Deputy Collector or other Officer who could afford sufficient time to minutely examine and dispose of each case connected with such an extensive 'Seer' or Khas settlement, and at the same time keep a constant and recurring check upon all arrears. I have no doubt that, provided good seasons intervene

and judicious management is carried out, still further improvement in the amount collections from the source of revenue may be anticipated." He concludes by saying—"It may not be out of place to add, that a series of years have convinced me of the great encroachment the settlement of this Mehal forms upon the time and other duties of the Principal Assistant, in fact I have never, any single year, since I got charge of the Division, been able to complete the settlement during the ordinary "Kutcherry hours."

84. In reporting on Purulia, I recommended that the Abkaree Department of Hazareebaugh should be made over for a time to Baboo Kaleedoss Paulit, late Superintendent of Abkaree, now Deputy Collector in Maunbhoom. He has had great experience in the Department, and thoroughly understands all the details of Khas management. He might undertake this duty in addition to his duties at Purulia. At the time of settlement, and probably a second time during the year, it would be necessary for him to proceed to Hazareebaugh. The distance is eighty-eight miles, or about twenty-four hours dāk.

STAMPS.

85. I have, in my Report on Chota Nagpore, represented, that in 1834, a system differing from that prescribed by Regulation X. of 1829, was introduced by the Governor General's Agent in this District, and has been observed up to this time. The Agent has now directed, that the Authorities, shall, in all cases, be guided by Regulation X. of 1829. The Stamp revenue has increased from Rupees 10,473-10-0 in 1848-49 to Rupees 12,632-8-0 in 1852-53, and in all probability, will be further increased, now that the fees prescribed by law are to be imposed.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

86. The Courts of Criminal Justice are the Court of the Principal Assistant, the Court of the Deputy Magistrate stationed at Burree on the Grand Trunk Road, twenty miles North from Hazareebaugh, and the Court of the Principal Sudder Ameen stationed at Golah.

87. In three years, from 1851 to 1853, the convictions in heinous cases were 676,* the acquittals 539.† The average number of persons apprehended was 736, of persons punished 492.

* Including Burree 44.

† Ditto ditto 71.

88. The number of witnesses examined was 14,184,* of which 7,408 were detained only one day, 6,126† were detained more than one, but not exceeding six days, 650‡ were detained more than six, but not exceeding eight days.

89. As mentioned in reporting on Chota Nagpore, the Orders of Government vested the Principal Sudder Ameen, stationed at Golah, with the powers of a Magistrate in Hazareebaugh and Lohardugga.

90. In 1851, 225 cases, in 1852, 361 cases, and in 1853, 67 cases only were referred by the Principal Assistant to the Principal Sudder Ameen. Fewer cases were referred in 1853, because the Principal Assistant did not like to subject those who resided nearer Hazareebaugh than Golah, to the inconvenience of going to the last-mentioned place. As under the heading of "Civil Justice," I have described the inconvenience which parties suffer from having to attend at Golah, it is unnecessary to enlarge on that subject in this place. The Assistant, in a letter addressed to me, says,—“The number of Criminal cases referred for the Principal Sudder Ameen’s decision, during the past year, you will observe, is comparatively very small; this arises from the isolated position of his Court at Golah, with reference to the other parts of my Division.”

91. I have repeated the suggestion submitted in my Report on Chota Nagpore, that a Principal Sudder Ameen, on a salary of Rupees 350, should be appointed to each District; and all I have said relating to Civil Justice, is equally applicable to Criminal Justice; indeed the inconvenience attending the administration of Criminal Justice will be greater than those connected with Civil Justice; Civil cases may be conducted throughout by means of Vakeels; in Criminal cases parties must attend in person. Should it be determined to continue the existing arrangement, it certainly would be better to confine the jurisdiction of the Principal Sudder Ameen to the Pergunnahs near Golah, rather than that persons from all parts of the District, should be liable to receive orders to attend at that place.

92. I have before recommended that the Moonsiff should be vested with powers, to receive and dispose of trifling complaints of assault, abusive language, affray, &c., with the powers of Assistants under Regulation IX. of 1807. I repeat the recommendation, but if Moonsiffs are to be so employed, the increased allowance for establishment, which I have proposed to give them, must, at least, be granted.

* Including Burree 1906.

† Ditto ditto 1704.

‡ Ditto ditto 202.

CIVIL JUSTICE.

93. The Civil Courts in this Division consist of, the Court of the Principal Assistant, the Court of the Principal Sudder Ameen stationed at Golah, the Courts of three Moonsiffs, Hazareebaugh, Chittra, Kurrukdeea.

94. Up to 1853, the Principal Sudder Ameen held his Court at Hazareebaugh, but the Civil business at Hazareebaugh, not being considered sufficient to give full employment to the Principal Sudder Ameen, it was first of all proposed that he should divide his time between Hazareebaugh and Lohardugga, in which District there was more Civil business than the Principal Assistant could timely dispose of; eventually, instead of the Principal Sudder Ameen passing part of his time in each District, it was determined, that he should be located at a place equally convenient for both Districts, and the Orders of the Government, dated the 16th February 1843, placed him at Golah with the usual Civil jurisdiction, and the special Criminal powers described in Clause 3, Section II. Regulation III. of 1821, in both Districts.

95. In reporting on Chota Nagpore, I recommended that this arrangement should be superseded, and a Principal Sudder Ameen be appointed to each station with a salary of Rupees 350.

96. After having carefully again considered the matter, with reference to this District, I earnestly repeat the recommendation. All, of every class, are dissatisfied with the arrangement. I have not found a single person with a word to say in favor of it. The map alone is, I think, sufficient proof that the objections preferred are reasonable. Golah is the extreme South-east point of one District of 12,000 square miles, and the extreme North-East point of another District of 7,000 square miles. It really appears useless to say more.

97. In reporting on Chota Nagpore, I showed how few cases connected with that District, belonged to Pergunnahs near Golah. Inquiry of the same nature in this District shows, that of forty-seven appealed cases pending before the Principal Sudder Ameen at Golah, forty-five are connected with Pergunnahs nearer to Hazareebaugh than to Golah, and of fourteen original cases before the Principal Sudder Ameen, eleven concern Pergunnahs more distant from Golah than from Hazareebaugh. It is not only the inconvenience parties suffer in having so far to go to institute a case, it is the greatly increased expense; a Peadah from Golah to Palamow costs 6 Rupees.

98. In my Report on Chota Nagpore, I mentioned that effect had not been given to the orders respecting the Criminal jurisdiction of the Principal Sudder Ameen, and I find that in this District also, the Principal Assistant, unable to resist the importunities of parties not to be sent with their cases to Golah, has made over only sixty-seven cases to the Principal Sudder Ameen there stationed.

99. If the Principal Sudder Ameen is to remain there, his jurisdiction should be arranged as conveniently as may be for all parties. At present, as regards original suits, there is a double jurisdiction over the whole District. On a difference occurring, one party may go to the Principal Assistant's Court, and the other to the Court of the Principal Sudder Ameen, and process may issue from both Offices, to the ultimate expense and vexation of both Plaintiff and Defendant.

100. The original suits and appeals, instituted and disposed of during the last ten years, have been as shown in the under-written Statement :—

YEAR.	Pending from preceding year.		Instituted during the year.		TOTAL.	Decided by Principal Assistant, Agent Governor General.	Decided by Sudder Ameen.	Total disposed of.	Remaining.
	Original Suits.	Appeals.	Original Suits.	Appeals.					
1844,	77	256	28	135	496	77	0	77	419
1845,	93	326	29	163	611	151	56	207	404
1846,	102	302	40	129	573	51	314	365	208
1847,	84	124	55	154	417	61	220	281	136
1848,	97	39	34	91	261	20	130	150	111
1849,	85	26	34	223	368	35	172	207	161
1850,	86	75	43	213	417	46	99	145	272
1851,	86	186	33	104	409	23	274	297	112
1852,	45	77	34	108	254	21	162	183	71
1853,	45	26	18	135	224	2	104	106	118
Total,	...	...	348	1,455	2,136	487	1531	2018	2012

Cases for possession of land are not numerous; I find on examination that of the 280 cases original and appeal, instituted in 1852 and 1853, 24 only were for land.

101 to 104. * * * * *

105. The cases transferred to the Principal Sudder Ameen were as follows :—

	Original Cases.		Appeals.	
In 1850,	44	.. .. .	86	.. .. .
„ 1851,	35	.... ..	106	.... ..
„ 1852,	18	.. .. .	123	.. .. .
„ 1853,	2	.... ..	84	.... ..
„ 1854,	6	.. .. .	45	.. .. .

106. The cases which had being lying over, without being once brought forward in all 1852, at all events ought to have been transferred to the Principal Sudder Ameen in 1853.

107. The Orders of the Sudder Court, respecting the preparation of issues, and the arrangement of useful, and destruction of useless, records, have not been fully carried into effect. On the 13th August last, the Principal Assistant reported to the Court—“The effect given to the “ introduction of the drawing up of issues referred to in the Court’s “ Circular, No. 154, of the 20th November 1851, alluded to in the 5th “ Clause of the Sudder Court’s 16th paragraph, has been inconsiderable in “ this jurisdiction, where the Mooktears are in many cases of no great “ ability. The Sudder Ameen is however endeavouring to introduce it, and “ the attention of the subordinate Courts has been, on several occasions, “ called to the necessity of adhering closely to the provisions of Section “ X. Regulation XXVI. of 1814,” but in point of fact, no measures likely to be attended with success have been adopted. The less the ability of the pleaders, the more complete and particular should have been the instructions.

108. Following up the inquiry commenced at Pooree, I found in the Office of the Moonsiff of Chittra the system before reported. Between the 1st January 1853, and the end of September, the Moonsiff disposed of 167 cases. Of these, 109 were decided in the last weeks of the several months.

The Moonsiffs of Hazareebaugh and Kurrukdeea were regularly employed throughout each month.

109. On questioning the Moonsiff of Chittra why so many cases were disposed of in the last days of the month, he offered no explanation, further than that the Omlah allowance was insufficient.

110. In the Court of the Principal Sudder Ameen, the average time a case remains pending, is eleven months and twenty-seven days; in the Court of the Moonsiff of Hazareebaugh, one year five months and twenty-seven days; in the Court of the Moonsiff of Chittra, nine months and nine days; in the Court of the Moonsiff of Kurruckdeea, ten months and three days.

111. The Moonsiff of Hazareebaugh employs five Omlah at Rupees 8, 6, 5, 4, 3, each; the Moonsiff of Chittra four Omlah at Rupees 9, 8, 8, 4, each; the Moonsiff of Kurruckdeea five Omlah at Rupees 10, 5, 5, 5, 5, each. Having already reported my opinion, that the allowance is insufficient, I will only say that my opinion is confirmed by what I have heard in these Districts. Two Moonsiffs, with a suitable allowance for establishment, would do as much work as three Moonsiffs with the present establishment.

112. The Moonsiff of Chittra is seventy and infirm. The Moonsiff of Kurruckdeea is sixty-nine or seventy. It is almost time that these two old Officers should be pensioned. They are both men of very good character, but they are nearly worn-out; and if my proposal, to give all the Moonsiffs authority to try criminal cases with the powers of Assistant, be approved, I think more active men will be required.

113. In reporting on Purulia, I recommended that appeals, in regular suits from the decision of the Principal Sudder Ameen, should be heard by the Deputy Commissioner. Up to the 16th August 1847, they were in this District heard by the Principal Sudder Ameen. On that date, the Governor General's Agent, observing there was but little business before the Deputy Commissioner, directed the Principal Assistant to transfer nine appeals pending before him to that Court; and that the Mooktears should be instructed, that for the future appeals were to be filed in that Court. This has since been the practice, but all appeals in miscellaneous cases, and cases connected with the execution of decrees are still heard by the Principal Assistant. I have, in my letter on Purulia proposed, that all miscellaneous and summary appeals from the orders of the Principal Sudder Ameen, should, as well as regular appeals, be heard by the Deputy Commissioner. I repeat the recommendation, as being suitable also to the Hazareebaugh District.

114. There is no Government Vakeel, and cases in which the Government is concerned are so rare, the appointment of a Vakeel does not appear called for. When a case is instituted against the Government, the Principal Assistant, with the sanction of the Agent, directs one of the Mooktears of the Office to take charge of it.

POLICE.

115. The Hazareebaugh District comprises five Government and eight Zemindary Thannas. The five Government Thannas are Chittra, West; Burree, Kurruckdeea and Gowah, North; and Bagodah, East of Hazareebaugh. Chittra is a small Thanna containing only 168 square miles. The remaining four Thannas, comprising 5,772 square miles, are under the Deputy Magistrate stationed at Burree. The eight Zemindary Thannas embrace 5,018 square miles, and all but one* containing 638 square miles, are in the Zemindary of the Rajah of Ramgurbh.

116. The Government Thannas have the usual establishments, but the Zemindary Thannas are very inefficient. Thanna Ramgurbh, with an area of 1,444 square miles, and a population of 76,000 people, has a Darogah on Rupees 10 per mensem; a Mohurir on Rupees 5, and five Burkundazes at Rupees 2-13 each. Thannas Pagar and Esmea, comprising between them 2,000 square miles, have each the same establishment. These Officers are all paid by the Rajah of Ramgurbh.

117. I called for information as to the nature of the arrangements made with the Rajah at the time of settlement, but the papers had been sent to the Office of the Governor General's Agent, and the Assistant could give me no information on the subject.

118. Besides these five Burkundazes, there are Ghatwals, Digwars, and Chowkeedars. The Ghatwals and Digwars hold land, and in some cases, a very small cash salary is paid by the Zemindar. Those on the Grand Trunk Road are for the most part paid in this manner. Some of the Chowkeedars hold lands, others are paid trifling sums in cash. In some places "Goraites" are found, who also hold service lands, and whose duty it is to carry reports to the Thanna. There are in the District 134 Digwars and about 2,500 Chowkeedars, or one Chowkeedar to 267 inhabitants and five square miles of land. Were the Digwars and Chowkeedars

* Anuntpoor, in Pergunnah Koonda.

dars really paid in such a manner, that they could devote their time to their calling, instead of having to seek their livelihood by other means, the remuneration, whether in land or money, being quite inadequate to their support, they would in numbers suffice for an efficient Police, but the allowance is in almost every case quite inadequate, and instead of looking after the ryots, the Chowkeedar is obliged to look after himself.

119. The state of the Police in this District is not satisfactory, for heinous crimes have greatly increased. The number punished in 1852 is an improvement on the Returns of the two previous years, but still the amount of crime is large. The number of persons punished in 1853, as compared with the number of crimes committed, shows that the Police are as inefficient in their detective capacity as they are in their preventive.

	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.
Dacoities, - - - - -	14	29	87	39
Persons punished, - - - - -	11	31	162	10
Highway-robberies, - - - - -	7	12	15	25
Persons punished, - - - - -	7	13	14	17

120. There appears to have been a greater increase of heinous offences in the Zemindary Thannas than in the Government Thannas.

Government Thannas.

1850, - - - 225.

1851, - - - 284.

1852, - - - 310.

1853, - - - 153.

Zemindary Thannas.

123.

184.

241.

238.

121. The Principal Assistant represents "the cause of the great increase of crime for the three years, must be attributable to the drought and consequently great scarcity of grain, and the want of the necessary articles of food is said to have continued until the close of the last rainy season, when the price of food somewhat abated."

122. Many of the dacoities were evidently caused by want. Dacoity by organized gangs, living by robbery, is said to be rare. The sudden decrease of crime in 1853, is, I think, confirmatory of the correctness of the Principal Assistant's representations, but the rarity of convictions shows that the Police is inefficient. In 1853, the number of persons concerned in the thirty-nine dacoities was reported to have been 588, of whom ten only were brought to punishment. The number of persons supposed to be concerned in violent robberies is always exaggerated, but in all probability at least 390 persons were concerned in the thirty-nine robberies. If so, the convictions were about 2½ per cent.

123. The state of the Police evidently requires the vigilant attention of the Governor General's Agent. If the Rajah of Ramgurh is bound by his engagements with the Government to keep up an efficient Police, a force increased in number should be demanded from him.

124. He represented to me, that the inclination which has existed on the part of the Authorities to suppose, in all disagreements and disputes between the higher and the lower classes, that he, of the higher class, must necessarily be in the wrong, has greatly weakened his authority, and that a threat of complaint to the Court is the immediate consequence of any attempt on his part to make the subordinate village Zemindars, the Ghatwals and Digwars, do their duty. I think it likely that there may be some truth in these representations. They deserve the Agent's careful attention. Though it is desirable to check any oppression, legitimate support should not be denied to those responsible.

125. Of the five Darogahs in charge of Government Thannas, one is in the first grade, two in the second grade, and two in the third grade. There are several of the Darogahs in the Zemindary Thannas who have been in the Service for many years.* I requested the Principal Assistant to report whether the position of these persons had ever been brought under consideration. Though they receive their pay from the Zemindar, they are responsible to the Magistrate for their good conduct like any other Darogahs; their posts are equally difficult and equally laborious. The Ramgurh Darogah is the chief Police Officer in a tract of country much larger than the usual area of Government Thannas. It cannot be right not to hold out to a person in a position of such temptation some

* Sigopal Darogah, of Ramgurh, since 1837. Jubulall, of Gomar, since 1820. Jhumunall, of Etkorce, since 1819.

inducement to do his duty beyond the remuneration of Rupees 10 per mensem.

126. The Principal Assistant reports, that several of the Zemindars' Darogahs have been promoted to Government Thannas, and that now a good Zemindary Darogah is pretty sure of advancement to a Government Thanna on a vacancy occurring.

127. The Zemindary Police receive their pay from the Rajah of Ramgurh. It is not paid with regularity. The Burkundazes of Hazareebaugh represented to me, that, in November last, their pay was in arrear from July. I think it in every respect desirable, that the Principal Assistant should pay the Police regularly month by month, and that the Rajah should make his payments to the Treasury.

128. As in the other Divisions of this Agency, the Police Reports contain a precis of every case, which makes them so voluminous as greatly to decrease their usefulness: the present Agent, Mr. Allen, is quite aware how desirable it is that the time of the Principal Assistants and their hard-worked Writers should not be employed on such profitless work; and he is, I believe, prepared to direct, that in future the Reports should be confined to a precis of the most heinous cases, and general remarks on the state of the Police, as shown by the Annual Returns.

129. Since the above was written, further, but still incomplete information has been received from the Principal Assistant on the subject of the Ramgurh Police.

130. It appears from the papers, which Captain Simpson has now received from the Agent's Office, that during the minority of Rajah Sidnath Sing, previous to 1821, under the orders of the Government, the Dewan or Mohafiz had alternately charge of the Police; and on the 31st August 1821, on the Rajah becoming of age, the orders of that date, conferred the charge of the Police on Rajah Sidnath Sing, under the provisions of Section VI. Regulation XVIII. of 1805; and an ikrarna-ma was filed accordingly by the Rajah on the 3rd September 1821. No papers have been found of a date prior to 1821, but the Rajah's agents affirm, that in 1806, the Rajah was first called upon to establish Thannas; that in the original settlement of 1793, there was no mention of Thannas, but merely a clause binding the Maharajah to take charge of the Police of his estate, and not to allow robbers or other suspicious persons to settle within the precincts of his Zemindary; and that previous to 1806, when he was first desired to maintain Thannas as above-mentioned

there was no other than the rural Police Ghatwals and Boyas and a Kutwal at each of the large towns. Endeavours are being made to obtain earlier information, but I have great doubts whether any earlier papers will be found.

131. The Assistant says, that due allowance being made for their inferior strength in numbers, and the decreased pay they receive, he considers the Zemindary Police to be as efficient as the Government Police, but that they are numerically too few and not sufficiently paid for the duties required of them.

132. There is not sufficient information to enable any person to form a decided opinion of the Rajah's liabilities. If, in 1806, the authorities were justified in ordering him to keep up the existing Thannas, now that the produce of the estate, and the number of the people have both doubled, the Government would be justified in directing him to provide Thannas of at least double the strength, but it is desirable that all practicable search should be made before any orders are issued on this difficult subject. If the Rajah by his engagements, is merely answerable for the peace and good conduct of the people living on his possessions, without any mention of establishments, he should be held answerable whenever a case of violent robbery occurs, but if the establishment of Thannas is to relieve him from responsibility and the responsibility is to be shifted to the Darogahs, the Thannas should be efficient, and on the establishment of efficient Thannas, he might be declared exempt from responsibility, beyond that to which proprietors are liable in the Regulation Districts. This is a matter of much interest, and should not be lost sight of, for it is admitted that the existing Police is rotten and good-for-nothing.

133. The Chowkeedars of the Hazareebaugh Bazar having represented to me that they were very irregularly paid and were then much in arrear, I called on the Principal Assistant to report on what system the Burkundazes were supported, and for what period they were in arrear. The answer is as follows:—

“ In reply to your letter dated 1st instant, annexing a petition from “ the Chowkeedars of Hazareebaugh, I have the honor to inform you, that “ the pay of the Chowkeedars is annually assessed by a punchayet, or “ assessors on the residents, and collected and disbursed to the Chowkeedars, but it appears their pay has only been realized up to June last, “ leaving a large balance of eight months due up to the end of

"February. I have issued strict orders to endeavour to recover the amount due to the Chowkeedars."

134. The Principal Assistant reports that he has issued strict orders to endeavour to recover the amount due to the Chowkeedars. No explanation is offered, why such orders were not issued before.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

135. The room in which the Principal Assistant sits is a very good Office-room in every respect, but the house is much too small for the Records and Officers, and I never have been in an Office which looked more dirty, unwholesome, and uncomfortable. The records of the Criminal Court are in a small mud bungalow adjoining, some on shelves against the wall, some on benches, some in petarrahs. All the papers since 1834 have been preserved, according to the Orders promulgated; nearly one-half of these records may be destroyed.

136. The Treasury is in a verandah room with two open doors. As far as security is concerned, the treasure might just as well be under a sentry in a box on the plain. There being no guard-house, the guard live in the verandah to the South, which, consequently, in order to their protection from the weather, is enclosed with jaumps, which make all the rooms to the South dark, hot and unwholesome.

137. Annexed is a plan of the house, which in fact contains no more than three rooms with enclosed verandahs.

138. I propose to add to it on the plan sanctioned for standard Kutcheries, two rooms 38×18 , and a treasure-room 16×16 . The present separate Record-room, which is built of mud with a roof of thatch and tile, and which the Executive Officer has reported can be repaired only by re-building from the foundation, may be demolished.

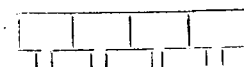
139. A separate guard-house of mud, and roof of thatch and tile, may be erected, at a suitable distance from the Kutcherry, or the existing Record-room mentioned above, standing close to the Kutcherry, may be sufficiently repaired to answer the purpose of a guard-house at a, comparatively speaking, trifling cost. The white-ants will not eat the guard, but they will soon destroy all the records.

140. It was proposed in 1851 to convert one of the abandoned Barrack-ranges into a Kutcherry, but these buildings have all been condemned. They must be dismantled to within a few feet of the ground, for all the interior walls have been pronounced unsafe. To make

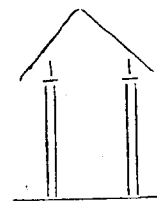
one of them fit for a Kutcherry would cost as much as the additions I have proposed to the present Office, and could not, by any arrangement, be so convenient, or so wholesome. The floor of the Barracks is level with the ground, and consequently for many months, is very damp.

141. The place in which the Moonsiff sits, is a mud hut, so dark at 5 o'clock, that I was obliged to have a light to see the interior arrangement. There is a building attached to the Government godown, containing three rooms, each 18 or 20 feet square. I recommend, that till it shall be wanted for some other purpose, the Principal Sudder Ameen and the Moonsiff be allowed to hold their Courts in this place. Having been for some time made no use of, it will require a little cleaning and repairing.

142. The new Kutcherry and dwelling-house at Burree was reported on the 21st February, as completed all but the fixing the doors and windows. I found but one door fixed on the 4th March. The building is very strong, and admirably suited to the purpose for which it is intended, but the door-frames used are not all sound* and they will not admit of glass window frames. The plan of the houses for the servants is bad.



They are very small cells, each with a door; there is not a window, or air hole of any description throughout the building. If, for the sake of economy, it is necessary to build such places, the chupper should always be raised a few inches from the wall for the sake of ventilation and light.



143. The Jail at Burree was built for under Rupees 100. It consists of three mud cells of the same nature, as those I have described as intended for the servants. Air and light are admitted from the door only, so that to secure a prisoner, it is necessary to confine him without air or light. The Deputy Magistrate informed me, that it was intended to open some small windows. The Jail will then be habitable. As might be expected from the amount expended, the work is bad and the materials are bad, and although it has not yet been made use of, it already requires repair.

144. The Burree Thanna is open to the same objections. I found eleven persons confined in a place so dark, that when I entered it about sunset, though the door was open, I could not discover whether it contained prisoners or not. I would strongly recommend, that in future, before

* They are old door-frames from the Hazareebaugh Barracks.

Deputy Magistrates are appointed, the head-quarters should be prepared for the new official by the erection of the necessary public buildings. This subject requires particular attention, when it is intended that the new Magistrate shall be a Native. A European Magistrate of character may not suffer in influence and powers of usefulness by holding his Office in a hovel, but the difficulties of the position of a Native, placed for the first time on the Bench, must be very much increased, by those subject to his authority supposing that his dignity and comfort meet with no consideration.

DISTRICT JAIL

145. The District Jail is composed of three large wards, built of mud brick, with tiled roofs, surrounded by a bank and ditch. At the rate of 20 feet per man, the Jail is capable of containing 375 male and 45 female convicts. There is also a ward for prisoners under trial and a Hospital ward. There are at present 371 men, and 1 woman in confinement. The ward in which Civil prisoners are confined has been converted into a work-shop for convicts. I found two Civil prisoners there, who told me they had to sleep between the looms of the weavers. I pointed out to the Assistant, that the two Civil prisoners might be placed in a small empty house built for Burkundazes near the gate. This was done.

146. The dietary system prescribed has been carried out, and the orders prohibiting opium and tobacco observed. The cost of the subsistence of a non-laboring convict is Rupees 1-4 per month, of a laboring convict Rupees 1-4-9. As in Nagpore, the allowance appears to be more than is necessary, seventeen chittacks, including twelve chittacks of rice, is, I believe, more than most men consume in a day. Captain Simpson informs me, that the amount of food to be allowed was fixed under the Orders of Government, dated 24th November 1851, and that working prisoners in health allowed two meals a day, consume the whole quantity.

147. Of the 358 prisoners in the District Jail, 288 are reported as constantly occupied in repairing the roads and cleaning the station of Hazareebaugh. I would have a positive order issued, that for the present no more than 48 men should be employed on those duties, and that the remaining 240 should be employed in bringing from the Hills, and shaping, stones for the walls of the great Agency Jail. Of course it is desirable that the stones should be shaped at the Hills, where they are found, and

brought to a spot near the Jail afterwards, as there will be so much less to carry. These 240 men and 60 men from the Agency Jail ought, in a very short time, to collect sufficient stones for the wall.

148. I have, in reporting on the other Districts of this Division pointed out for especial notice, the effect on the health of the prisoners of increasing the number: this Jail affords another striking example of the same consequences. In 1851 the total number of persons in confinement was 3,332, there was not 1 death; in 1852 the number was 4,470, there were 20 deaths; in 1853 the number was 4,721, there were 30 deaths.

149. It appears to be matter for consideration, whether it is necessary to have two Jails at Hazareebaugh. It is always more expensive to keep up two small establishments than one large one. At present there is a guard of nineteen men at the District Jail, and another guard of nineteen men at the Agency Jail. I would, when accommodation shall have been provided, and the Jail made secure, transfer all persons sentenced to above six months' imprisonment to the Great Jail, and keep the District Jail for male prisoners sentenced to six months', and less than six months' imprisonment, insane patients, Civil prisoners, and women. By a little contrivance, the several wards may be made suitable to these purposes. I would remove all the women in the large Jail to this prison. Several insane persons have been sent to Hazareebaugh, though there is no accommodation prepared for them in either Jail. In altering the small Jail, this subject should receive especial attention.

150. Should these arrangements be made, a guard of a few Burkundazes will suffice for the small Jail, and the Sepoy guard may be withdrawn.

NEW AGENCY JAIL OR "PENITENTIARY."

151. This Jail was established in 1849. The chief building of it was originally the Hospital for the European Regiment formerly stationed here. Additions have since been made, and it is now capable of containing 696 male and 118 female* prisoners. The number has never yet exceeded 582.

152. It appears that the Jail was originally intended merely to receive drafts of prisoners from the other Jails of the Agency, which are all merely

* At the rate of 20 feet per man, which I believe not to be sufficient in the hot months.

mud huts, with a ditch round them; but prisoners are now sent to this Jail from other parts of Bengal and from Behar, and at present it contains 453 men, of whom 18 are confined for life and 302 are bad characters.

153. This Jail appears to me quite unsuited at present for the reception of prisoners confined for long periods. The buildings are of mud; there is no wall; there is a ditch 6 feet deep, 23 feet wide, and a bank 7 feet high, but the sides of the ditch, and the sides of the bank, are all sloping. Prisoners, with their fetters on, can get up and down with ease. On the top of the bank is a hedge of aloe, but at the expense of a few scratches, any one may pass through the hedge in any part.

154. Such ditches are always more or less unwholesome. In heavy rain, this ditch becomes full of water, which rushes out at the only opening with great velocity. There will always be much expense attending the maintenance of this fence. The bank is 7 feet high. A wall of that height would not exclude the air more than the bank does, and it would be much more useful than the ditch and bank. I would immediately fill in the ditch and build a stone wall round the Jail. Stone in abundance is to be had close at hand, and the wall could be built by the prisoners at no cost, except the lime for the top of the wall, the upper part of which should be cemented and smoothed.

155. In conformity with the proposal contained in the Agent's letter to the Government, dated the 19th February 1851, one of the ranges of Barracks, 500 yards from the Jail, has been fitted up as a work-shop, and in his letters of the 16th September 1852 and 18th February 1853, the Principal Assistant recommended that three more of the Barrack ranges should be fitted up for the same purpose. Each range will not hold more than 150 men at work. The number of prisoners employed on the work of different trades is now 303, and is fast increasing. The cost of fitting each range for a work-shop is Rupees 2,000. They are all unsafe, and have been condemned. The inner walls, which were of mud brick only, have to be taken down and re-built from within 6 feet of the ground. The Executive Engineer informs me, that for less than the sum which the repair of these Barracks will cost, he could fit up work-shops, which would be more suitable and would hold more work people, and which might be placed in a better situation. The Barracks are 500 yards from the Jail. There are many other buildings near them; they are difficult to guard, and liable to the great objection

of giving the prisoners constant opportunities of communicating with their friends outside.

156. It appears to me, that the plan recommended by the Agent in his letter of the ————— has been in some measure lost sight of. He wrote—"It would appear, that manufactures of wood and iron are by far the most remunerative, which was to be expected, for as these materials can be procured in the rough state close at hand for a very small cost, the proceeds of the sale of articles made therefrom must be nearly all net profit. At the same time it might be difficult to find any other branch of manufacture, a practical knowledge of which would be better calculated to procure a proper livelihood for a man when set at liberty to return to the wild country, from which most inmates of the Agency Jail have come." At present, of 224* persons employed in trades, there are only 45 Carpenters and 20 Blacksmiths. I would make a Blacksmith of every man, who, ignorant of any trade, had to commence.

157 to 160. * * * * *

161. Even in this Jail, as in the District Jail, the system of locking up Burkundazes with the convicts at night prevails. Two Burkundazes are locked up in each Criminal ward. I think the Jailor can hardly be considered answerable for the discipline of his Jail when such a plan is pursued. It is quite unreasonable to expect that the Burkundazes will preserve strict discipline, and by so doing incur the ill-will of 100 men of the worst character, with whom they are to be locked up at night. They can secure their lives only by neglecting their duty. I strongly recommend that this system of guarding prisoners be strictly forbidden. If in consequence of the insecurity of the prison, it is necessary that the

• Weaving Cloth,.....	92
Weaving Satringies,	45
Carpenters,	45
Blacksmiths,	20
Basket-makers,	10
Tile-makers,	20
Blanket-makers,.....	17
Cotton-cleaners,	7
Shoe-makers,	4
Masons,	15
Rope makers,.....	15
Cotton Spinners (women,).....	13

prisoners should be unceasingly watched, it may be effected by the plan I found in the Pooree Jail. The sentry boxes are so built into the wall of the Jail (A B) that the sentry can see into all parts of the ward, or if the building is so constructed, that the plan cannot conveniently be adopted, small iron cages may be introduced (C D,) large enough for a man to sit in, either level with the floor, or raised a few feet from the ground.

162. There is a separate ward for females, but it opens into the same compound as the wards for males. In all Jails, but especially in such a Jail as this, the ward for females should be apart, with a separate compound and separate entrance door. If my proposal to remove all the women to the District Jail is not approved, more suitable accommodation in this Jail must be provided.

163. In this Jail also, though the number in confinement has never equalled the number the Jail is estimated to hold, the percentage of deaths has steadily increased with the increasing numbers, as shown by the following figures:—

Year.	No. of persons confined.	Deaths.
1850,	2,467	2
1851,	2,689	4
1852,	4,953	14
1853,	6,334	25

164. Instead of building a wall round the Jail where the ditch now is, and making the Barracks at a large expense into inconvenient and unsuitable work-shops,* I would considerably enlarge the Jail compound, especially to the Westward, erect commodious work-shops inside, and, by means of prison-labor, make the Jail capable of containing 12 or 1,400 people.

165. The climate of Hazareebaugh is suitable to Natives from all parts of India. Iron, wood, charcoal, coal, and many other articles are procurable at a very cheap rate.

Iron is 24 to 27 seers per Rupee.

Charcoal is 10 Rupees for a hundred maunds.

Coal is 8 Rupees for a hundred maunds.

* See annexed plan of Hazareebaugh.

Saul Timber, 24 + 1, is 5 Rupees 4 annas, and other Wood in proportion.

166. I believe it would answer to have all the fetters, pick-axes, spades, &c., required for all other Jails in Bengal, made in this Jail. There are already twenty prisoners employed as Blacksmiths, who could teach any number of others. There are Carpenters also, who could make all the handles of the spades, hoes, &c. As made, they might be sent to Depôts at Patna, Moorshedabad and Calcutta. I would have the Deputy Jailor, Mr. Thurl, sent to Calcutta, and there instructed in the art of working iron in the manner now most approved, and then employ him to erect works and instruct the prisoners in the Jail. He is so apt, I have no doubt of his success.

167. All the work of building the stone wall round the Jail, and additional wards, might be performed by the prisoners. There are 240 in the District Jail available, and 60 in this Jail. As there are many lakhs of old bricks at Hazareebaugh, may be, it would be cheaper to make the wall of brick than of stone—of course the decision of this question must depend on the opinion of the Officers of the Building Department.

168. The Assistant Surgeon, Dr. J. P. Kelly, requested me to note the circumstances related in the accompanying letter, respecting the want of a Writer in his Office, the want of two Dressers for the two Hospitals, the want of a Native Vaccinator, the introduction of masonry floors, the removal of the Sepoy Hospital from inside the District Jail, and his title to the allowance of Rupees 50 per mensem for attendance on the Agency Jail as enjoyed by his predecessor, Dr. Callum. As requested, the letter is appended. The increased allowance does not appear to be a subject in disposing of which I can assist the Government. I am not aware of the terms in which Dr. Kelly was appointed to Hazareebaugh. If it was then understood that he was to take charge of the two existing Jails, he can have no claim to the allowance enjoyed by Dr. Callum. Should the Agency Jail become an establishment on the scale I have proposed, Dr. Kelly's claim to compensation, on account of the increased duties that will be imposed upon him, may call for consideration.

169. The existing system under which the Civil Surgeon's Returns are prepared by the Clerks of the Magistrate's Office, is certainly open to many objections. All the English Clerks in all our Offices are over-worked. There is such a constant tendency to increase in the number of Returns

called for, that out of Calcutta, there is not an Office in which the Clerks can do all demanded from them in the usual Office hours. Captain Simpson's Head Clerk assured me, and I believe there was but little exaggeration in what he said, that he had no time to enjoy either his food or his rest; that from the beginning to the end of each month, it was one continued scramble. Of course, under such circumstances, an application from the Surgeon to have copies of several Statements made was very unwelcome, and if it was necessary to incur the displeasure of either his immediate master or the Civil Surgeon, he would excuse himself the task of preparing the Surgeon's forms. The arrangement appears to me an objectionable one, as so very likely to cause disagreement between the Magistrate and the Surgeon, which is always productive of mischief.

170. Reference being had to the usual quantity of writing, which falls on a Civil Surgeon, it can hardly be said that a Civil Surgeon cannot have time to prepare the Statements himself, and copy his own letters, but copying letters and ruling Statements are, it must be allowed, very irksome tasks.

171. I have recommended that another Writer may be allowed in Captain Simpson's Office, making four for all Departments. It may be well to provide, that this Writer is to devote five days in each month to the service of the Assistant Surgeon, who shall be entitled to call for the writer whenever he may require him, provided the limitation of five days in each month be not exceeded.

172. Dr. Kelly represents, that there is not a Dresser in either of the Jail Hospitals. I have not with me any information as to the usual Hospital establishments. *Primâ facie*, I should say, that a Dresser was the next most necessary person in a Hospital establishment to the Surgeon himself. If all the other Jails in Bengal have Dressers, I would allow Dressers in these Jails. If all the Bengal Hospitals are without Dressers, it will be reasonable to conclude that a Hospital can get on without a Dresser at Hazareebaugh.

173. I imagine it is not unusual to teach some prisoner, who from infirmity, or from medical predilections, has excited the compassion of the Civil Surgeon, to perform the office of Dresser, and he is always entered on the books as in attendance in the Hospital. Such an arrangement appears to me, free from any serious objection. It may happen, that the man selected for Dresser is in Jail for inflicting a wound that

was not dressed, and should be subjected to severe punishment, but upon the whole, I do not think such an arrangement should be prohibited.

174. As Dr. Kelly represents that the people are opposed to Vaccination, circumstances are not at present favorable for the appointment of a Native Vaccinator. He should endeavour by his own exertions to overcome this prejudice, and having convinced the people of their error, then ask for assistance to carry into full effect a more rational system.

175. Mud floors in a Jail cannot be good, for it is impossible to effectually clean them. I recommend that the floors of all the wards should be bricked in the usual manner.

176. I found in this Jail charpoys with rattan bottoms, which on being first questioned, the Jailor and others represented were much approved, but on being asked as to the prevalence of vermin, he allowed that all were full of bugs, which no washing could remove. There is no doubt that to keep prisoners off the ground in a damp Jail, there is no plan like planks. I question, whether it is necessary to raise the planks. If every morning, each prisoner took his two planks up and placed them against the wall of the ward, so as to allow both floor and planks to be aired, I do not believe any hurtful damp would ever pass through them.

177. As to the removal of the Sepoy Hospital from inside the Jail, the objection is really of little value, for, saving a small ditch, the Jail stands on the plain. However, the removal of the mud building outside the gate may be effected by the prisoners, and I would have it done, and place it near the gate of the Agency Hospital. As there will always be a strong guard at the Agency Jail, this locality will enable the sick occasionally to see their friends and will be convenient for the Medical Officer.

178. It behoves me to make particular mention of Mr. W. Thurl, the Deputy Jailor. I have heard from several quarters a very high character of this young man, his steadiness, perseverance and ingenuity. It is said to be entirely through his tact and dexterity, that the prisoners have been instructed in the many trades in which they are now employed. There are few in the employ of the Government, who do so much for Rupees 20 per mensem. Should the Hazareebaugh Jail be enlarged as I have proposed, Mr. Thurl's services may be very useful in that Institution, otherwise there must be many positions in which the services of a person, with his extraordinary facility of turning his hands to any calling, would be extremely valuable and convenient.

ESTABLISHMENT.

179. On the establishment in the Revenue Department, there is but one Writer with a salary of Rupees 70. In the Civil Department there is a Writer on Rupees 25, in the Criminal Department a Writer on Rupees 20. I know it to be impossible that three persons should perform all the duties of all the Offices. On a revision of all the establishments in the Collectorships of Bengal, three Writers were allotted as necessary in an ordinary Collectorship, and nearly all the Returns prepared in a Collectorship, are required from these Offices:—

	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.
The Statements furnished were in..	331	385	451	463*
The letters written were	698	703	629†	692

180. There is an order ruling that the Statements required from the Civil Surgeon, shall be prepared by the Writer in the Magistrate's Office. Dr. Kelly complained to me, that he never can find the Writer in that Department at leisure, and he is consequently found fault with for not timely furnishing the Returns from his Office. I recommend that another Writer on Rupees 20 per mensem be allowed for the Revenue Department of the Principal Assistant's Office.

181. The Principal Assistant represents, that the reduction in the number of Chuprassees and Burkundauzes cannot now be carried out, inasmuch as two Chuprassees are, by order of the Agent, directed to attend the Civil Surgeon, and that he considers the establishment, as it at present stands, too weak for the duties required of it, that "the Chuprassees are all required for the processes of Court, realization of revenue, and other duties connected with the Office."

182. As the two Jails, which the Medical Officer has at present to attend to, are one and-a-half miles apart, I am not disposed to recommend that the two Chuprassees, which the Agent directed should be placed at his disposal, should be reduced. I do not think that the Principal Assistant shows any sufficient reason for retaining the other three Chuprassees, for Peadahs should be used for all processes of Court, whether for the realization of revenue, or for other purposes.

183. But a second Kalassee should be allowed. These Officers are expected to pass a considerable portion of their time in Camp, and one

* There have been 24 additional periodical Statements added to the list since 1850.

† This decrease was occasioned by letters submitting Statements being discontinued.

Kalassee is not sufficient, he can neither pitch, nor strike a tent. I would reduce two Chuprassees and seventeen Burkundauzes, making the reduction Rupees 70 instead of Rupees 88 as proposed by Mr. Crawford.

EMPLOYMENT OF FOREIGNERS.

184. In reporting on Chota Nagpore, I have recommended especial interference, with a view to the immediate up-rooting of the vicious system under which the whole patronage of that District is bestowed upon foreigners. The same system, though not so entirely exclusive, prevails in Hazareebaugh. I have not yet received from the Governor General's Agent the return called for; its preparation will occupy some time, but I heard enough at Hazareebaugh and other places in the District to warrant my stating that as regards the higher classes of Officers, there is but little difference; among the lower classes, Chuprassees, Burkundauzes, &c., a few Natives will be found. Though the employment of the inhabitants of the Hazareebaugh District is not to be regarded as a measure of such political prudence, as the employment of the people of Nagpore, their exclusion is but little less unjust, and I would insist on their being introduced into the Service whenever opportunity offered.

SALT.

185. Cuttack Salt is sold at Hazareebaugh retail at about Rupees 5 per maund. It is brought for the most part via Keongurh, Chaibassa, Seraikela, Echagurh, Sillee, and Ramgurh. Sometimes for short periods, it is procurable at a less cost than 5 Rupees retail, and considerably less wholesale. The quantity brought to Hazareebaugh is estimated at about 5 or 6,000 maunds per annum. Besides this, considerable quantities are taken Westward to Chittra and places in that neighbourhood. In short it appears that there is no other Salt now brought to the Hazareebaugh District for sale, but Cuttack Salt.

186. In reporting on Chota Nagpore, I mentioned that Salt from the Cuttack Golah Kypara, was procurable there at about Rupees 4 per maund. The cost of taking a maund of Salt from Rainchee to Hazareebaugh, the road being exceedingly difficult over two high ghâts, may be 5 or 6 annas which would make the price at Hazareebaugh Rupees 4-5 or Rupees 4-6. As it must be cheaper, brought by Sillee and

Ramgurl than by Rainchee, I have no doubt that wholesale transactions take place at Rupees 4-3 and Rupees 4-4 per maund.

187. I am not aware, whether any formal orders have ever been passed, declaring that Cuttack Salt might be carried to any part of the Districts under the Governor General's Agent, in the South-West Frontier. It is said that Lieutenant Colonel Ouseley systematically encouraged the traffic, and as Rowannahs are granted in Cuttack for Hazareebaugh, it is evident the Authorities of that Province conceive that the whole Agency is open to the Cuttack merchants. In the Code of Rules drawn up for the guidance of the Cuttack Salt Agent by Mr. Blunt, when Commissioner of Cuttack, export to Singhbhum was sanctioned.

188. In those days the authority of the Agent was confined to Singhbhum, and the neighbouring Tributary Mehals. May be, when the jurisdiction of the Agency was extended, the subject of the importation of Cuttack Salt into the Provinces then transferred from the neighbouring Districts, passed without observation, and not having been since brought forward for discussion, has remained unprovided for.

189. Small quantities may be taken North and North-west into the Districts of Behar, but hitherto, I should say, very small quantities, the demand throughout all these Districts being still inadequately supplied; but the Kypara sales will go on increasing fast, and in all probability large quantities will be carried to Shergotty and the South parts of Monghyr and Bhaugulpore, and would be carried into Beerbhum, were it not for the cheap Salt, which, reporting on Pufulia, I have mentioned as being procurable in the neighbourhood of Bishenpore.

190. So long as the sales at Kypara for Chota Nagpore and Hazareebaugh shall not exceed two lakhs of maunds, I do not think there is occasion to be uneasy about the import into the Behar Provinces; but should the sales exceed that quantity, it might be worth while to take measures for controlling the traffic.

ROADS.

191. It having come to my notice, that it was usual in Chota Nagpore, whenever a public Officer was about to proceed into the interior, to direct that the roads should be put in repair, I requested the Governor General's Agent to inform me, whether the Zemindars were bound by their engagements to keep the roads in repair.

192. The Agent reported, that the custom of repairing the roads, when public Officers visited the Mofussil, appears to have existed in the Lohardugga and other Districts for many years, long before the formation of the Agency in 1833, but that he had been unable to find any documents connected with the subject; that the decennial settlement engagement of the Maharajah of Chota Nagpore contained no stipulation binding him to repair the roads of his estate, but that he was bound to make and repair his Zemindary bridges. Mr. Allen further represented, that though the Zemindars and others apparently had no objection to repair the roads occasionally according to the ancient usage of the country, he believed that they would be unwilling to undertake any regular system of annual repairs, which, under existing engagements, could not be pressed upon them.

193. In Hazareebaugh it is not usual to call on the Zemindars to repair the roads previous to the Assistant proceeding on his annual tour, but the Assistant says, that on several occasions he has observed that the Zemindars and heads of villages have, of their own accord, cleared the jungle roads and approaches to the several localities. I am unwilling to propose, that a custom, which appears to have originated entirely in civility and good-will, should be converted into a demand founded on prescription. I would let things remain as they are.

194. I have already proposed, in reporting on Nagpore, that the new road from Hazareebaugh to Govindpore and through Golah to Rainchee, should immediately be made practicable by cutting down and smoothing the approaches to the hollows, over which it is intended eventually to place bridges, and that the ditches cut in each side should be filled up at intervals, so as to stop the current and prevent the accumulation of water, and the consequent formation of ravines.

195. I learn from the Executive Engineer, that Rupees 1,000 per annum is to be expended on the bridges of this road. It would be better to lay out Rupees 5,000 at once in bridging the most difficult places, and then for five years to do no more than make such annual repairs as I have recommended for all the fair-weather roads, *viz.* smoothing and jungle cutting, immediately on the cessation of the rains.

GRAND TRUNK ROAD.

196. My instructions did not say what matters connected with the Grand Trunk Road, I should regard as within the scope of my inquiries,

but I availed myself of the opportunity afforded by my march down a portion of the road to note the efficiency of the new Police force, to whom the safety of travellers is now trusted. In so large a force, all collected within a short space of time, of course some are more intelligent than others. They were all, or nearly all, new men. There are a good many, who have a very indistinct notion of the duties of a road Policeman, of guarding travellers without allowing them to suffer inconvenience from the interference. On several occasions, I observed that a traveller had no sooner sat down to rest himself, than he was told to be up and off. This will improve. Every man that can read should be furnished with a copy of the Rules, and those who cannot read should be made to learn them by heart from dictation.

197. There is a remarkable difference between the state of the Division under the Deputy Magistrate of Burrce and the Division under the Deputy Magistrate of Govindpore. In Burrce the Chowkee-houses are all finished, and are good of their kind, and the establishment appeared alert. In Govindpore the Chowkees are unfinished, when finished they will be very inferior to those in the Burrce Division, and the Officers of the establishment appeared inert and indifferent. The Deputy Magistrate of Govindpore assured me, that he had had no concern in the building of the Chowkee-houses, the work having been made over by the Principal Assistant of Purulia to contractors, who had deceived him and embezzled a part of the money. If an arrangement be not immediately made for securing the erection of such houses as have been built in the Hazareebaugh Division, there will be loss and disappointment.

198. The Cutcherry at Govindpore is on a very bad plan. It is one large room, which should be divided into one good Kutcherry-room, and small rooms for "malkhana," records, &c.

199. Mr. Allen thinks it would be advantageous to make the Grand Trunk Road Police a sort of *Gens d'armes d'élite*, and to recruit them only from the ordinary Police, admitting no man into the Corps who had not served for sometime with credit in the other branch of the Service, and who could not produce good testimonials of character and conduct. I do not think a Burkundauz of the old Police, on Rupees 4, would readily exchange into the new Police on Rupees 5. It is, I believe, estimated, that no Burkundauz of the old Police any where makes less than from Rupees 10 to 12 per mensem. The new Police will not, as a body, double their salaries; there are so many of them, a new man

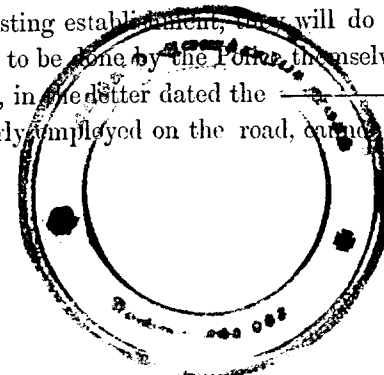
appears so frequently, travellers will be tired of seeing and very soon give it up.

200. It appears that at present the new Police are forbidden from holding inquiries; if inquiry is necessary, they are to call on an Officer of the old Police. Coming along the road shortly after day-light, on the morning of the 9th March, South of Rajgunge, we found the bodies of two young women lying dead by the road-side. On being questioned, the Jemadar said he had no authority to make any inquiry as to how they came by their death; that in all probability they had died of cholera in the gharry in which they were proceeding, and when dead had been thrown out, and left by their friends where we found them; but that he could make no inquiry, he could only inform the old Police. Now in this case, the only chance of ascertaining who these people were, was to send a Sowar on forthwith to the Chuttees on either side, to question all travellers in gharries respecting them. It was evident from their feet and legs, that they were not foot passengers. To call in the old Police was to lose time, and with it the only probable chance of discovering under what circumstances these two persons had lost their lives. I think it deserving of consideration, whether the new Police should not be allowed to hold inquiries and immediately follow up any clue they may have to the perpetrators of a crime committed on the road.

201. The Digwars of the old Police are still at work. I observed in several places, considered dangerous with reference both to thieves and tigers, "michans" erected by the road-side, on which the guardian sat and watched the passers-by. On each occasion, it was a michan for the Digwars, not for the new Police.

202. In reporting on Cuttack, I represented, that I saw objection to having Burkundauzes and common Mofussil Chowkeedars posted together, that the Chowkeedars would have to perform all the work. It is the same with these Digwars. No new Police Burkundauz will get into the michan, as long as there is a Digwar to send there. I would remove the Digwars entirely from the road: they are much required in other parts. The Rajah of Ramgurh has applied for permission to take the Digwars off the road, and to employ them elsewhere. I would accede to his request. On the Trunk Road, with the existing establishment, they will do merely what might be done, and ought to be done by the Police themselves.

203. The Government, in the letter dated the _____ inquire whether the Police, formerly employed on the road, cannot be dispensed



with, and their lands resumed and assessed. The Rajah, who provides the Police of several Thannas, says, he has occasion for their service elsewhere; that they were brought from elsewhere and placed on the old road, and removed from the old road to the new road; that being no longer wanted for the new road, he will remove them to where they originally were, or employ them where they are more wanted. Captain Simpson, in a letter to the Governor General's Agent, dated 7th January last, says—"If these men are dispensed with in consequence of the new "road Police, I suppose the Zemindars might be considered liable to "afford this much towards defraying the expenses of the new Govern- "ment Police;" but if the case is, as stated by the Rajah, he is entitled to the service of any man who may be released from service on the new road. The subject requires much more close inquiry than it has yet received. Under the head of "Police," I mentioned that I failed to obtain from the Principal Assistant any information as to the original compact with the Maharajah of Ramgurh, the papers not being at present in his Office.

204. Having travelled along the road for about seventy-five* miles on horseback, I had good opportunity of observing its condition. For this distance, it is by far the best road I ever saw any where; with the exception of about two miles near Burree, where some new stone has been laid down and where the road has been cut into ruts, it is all as hard as iron, and as smooth as a board. It is better than the best part of any one of the stone roads in Calcutta. With suitable carriages and horses, there is no reason why travelling on this road should not always be performed at the rate of ten miles per hour.

205. The Bungalows I saw are for the most part in good condition, excepting those at Topchancy and Fitkoree, which I understand are about to be repaired. The cutlery and crockery are in some places much worn and in others short. I reported to the Executive Engineer in charge of the road what things appeared to be wanting.

206. It appears to me a mistake not to have a new Police Station between Muddoopore and Rungamuttee. The distance is six miles, and they are said to be, and always to have been, the worst miles of the road, which here passes at the foot of the Parosnath Hill.

* From Burree to Fitkoree.

207. The jungle is thick, wild beasts abound, and travellers all greatly fear this stage. It is said to be very unhealthy and there is no water. The parties at Muddoopore and Rungamuttee are both stronger than usual, it being intended that they should constantly patrol in the direction each of the other. But there cannot be a doubt, I think, that to leave the worst part of the road without a post, merely because it is the worst, is a mistake. I would establish a Police Station in the middle of this space, relieving the Burkundauzes every third day. From Rungamuttee or Muddoopore, a good well should be sunk and a large lantern placed over the door to be always lighted at sunset and kept lighted till day-break. In a very few weeks wild beasts and thieves would disappear.

208. The people stationed at Muddoopore, complain that the water there makes every body ill. It cannot be otherwise; the only water they have is a tank formed by a dam across a hollow, into which decayed vegetation is washed from the Hills in the rains to rot and poison people for the rest of the year. A good large well is very necessary at this place, especially if my proposal to establish a post in the forest between Muddoopore and Rungamuttee should not be approved. At other places complaints were made that the wells were dry or getting dry. If they have not lately been cleaned, it would be well to have them all examined, and if necessary, deepened.

209. The Deputy Magistrate at Govindpore, represented, that the tank in that station was nearly dry and that he had no well. He proposed that a tank should be dug on the low ground at some distance from the Kutcherry, but I think it would be better to deepen considerably, a large tank already existing close to the Kutcherry. In these parts, the water of tanks on low ground is always unwholesome, decayed vegetation from the Hills is washed into them, and the water soon becomes poisonous. A good well should also be sunk between the house and the Kutcherry of such a depth as to secure a supply of water at all seasons.

210. The parapets along the raised roads, near bridges (which are very necessary, for in some places there is a drop of upwards of twenty feet, and almost all travellers travel at night and without lamps,) are all of mud, which of course is washed away in the rains, and towards the end of the season, the parapets nearly disappear altogether. There is stone in almost every river. The parapets should be made of loose

stones after the manner of the fences in some parts of England, but a little thicker and heavier. If the top layer of stone be shaped and cemented, such parapets will last as long as the bridge.

211. All the large trees on that side of the road, in which the Telegraph wire has been placed, have been cut down. I must suppose, that this was found to be unavoidable, but the way-worn on this most dreary road will greatly feel their loss.

212. It would be a very great convenience to travellers if a map of the road showing the bungalows and chuttees, and dāk houses, with all the distances correct, were printed or lithographed, and sold at a cheap rate. The Post Office map, published by the Deputy Post Master General, is useful, but being on a scale of sixteen inches to a mile, it is not always to be distinguished to which marks the names belong, and a quarter of an inch making a difference of four miles, a traveller having that map only for his guide may sometimes be much inconvenienced.

213. It is impossible to imagine a more fit object on which a Native, desirous of laying out a considerable sum in charity, might spend his money, than the establishment of assistance for the sick on this road. The Government has now made ample provision against wild beasts and thieves, it remains for the philanthropist to provide aid for the sick and the weary.

214. As all travellers will continue to travel by this road to the North-west till the Railroad shall be open to Benares, there is still time for returns on expenditure in improving travelling by this route. Considering the state of the road, the rate of travelling is still, for the most part, very bad. The first requisite is assistance at the long Hills. Contractors should establish stables at the foot of the long Hills, and have horses, with light boys, always ready harnessed, to help each carriage up the hill, and return immediately to the post at the bottom. In many stages, it would double the rate of travelling, and double the length of time during which their horses will serve them. All the carriages which leave Calcutta, loaded as almost all passengers will insist on loading them, are too much for one horse, except on a dead level. After leaving Burdwan, for two hundred miles, there is hardly a mile of level road. The increased pace on the declivities cannot make up for repeated stoppages on the acclivities: with assistance whenever the Hills exceed 300 yards or above one-sixth of a mile, nine miles

per hour may, I think, be maintained even with the inefficient arrangements which now prevail for providing horses.

SCHOOL.

215. There is no Government School at Hazareebaugh. I endeavoured to make the Rajah of Ramgurh understand that it behoved a Maha Rajah who held a Zemindary embracing seven Police Thannas and paying only Rupees 28,000 revenue, to do something for the people of the District, and I suggested that it would be greatly to his credit if he established a School, or a Hospital, or both at Hazareebaugh. The Rajah said that if he expended any money on such establishments, he should prefer having them near his own residence at Ichak. He promised to consider the subject, but I fear he has little intention of acting on my suggestions. At present I do not recommend that a Government School should be established at Hazareebaugh. There would be no advantages commensurate with the expense, but I think there would be much advantage in the gratuitous distribution of the cheapest elementary School-books to the Village Schools, as I have recommended in reporting on the other Divisions.

IRON.

216. The Officiating Executive Engineer, Lieutenant Scott Moncrieff, who has shown much anxiety to promote all improvements connected with the department in which he is employed, and who met me at Purulia, Chota Nagpore, and Hazareebaugh, has furnished me with some statistics respecting the iron of Hazareebaugh, which may be useful.

217. Specimen No. 3 is sold in the Hazareebaugh Bazar, at 35 seers per Rupee, or Rupees 29-15 per ton. No. 4 is sold in the Bazar at 24 seers per Rupee, or Rupees 43-5-6 per ton. Specimen marked A, which I procured from Buldeea, at 2 Rupees per maund, about thirty maunds, such as specimen A, might now be procured at Buldeea per day. May be the quantity might be increased, but not much at that price. With cost at Rupees 2 per maund, what would be the cost of working up these specimens into iron fit for railway trains or other large works, it is for a practical person to determine. There is no place in the Hazareebaugh District, where so much iron is procurable at a short notice as at

Buldeea, and it appears these Works would be about two months in turning out sufficient iron to make a mile of trams. The produce could be increased, but not I think without a rise in price. ‘

218. I have, in another place, mentioned that Coal is to be had at Rupees 8 per hundred maunds, Charcoal at Rupees 10 per hundred maunds; Limestone is procurable in any quantity at 12 annas per ton.

219. Mr. Moncrieff writes to me as follows, regarding the iron of Hazareebaugh :—

“ As you have requested me to collect any information relative to the iron ore found in this District, I herewith forward some specimens which have been collected in the vicinity.

“ Specimens, Nos. 1, 2 and 3, are found within two miles of Hazareebaugh in a quantity of sand-stone rocks. The ore is there seen in layers with the sand, but the veins of iron are very thin. The rains have washed great quantities of it into a stream below, whence it is collected by the Natives, as in specimen No. 1, and after being washed (Specimen No. 2,) it is once melted and sold in the bazar at 35 seers per Rupee as per Specimen No. 3.

“ The iron made from this is said to be soft but good. A limited quantity is to be had in the stream, but I should think any quantity might be procured in the rock.

“ Specimen, No. 4, is found in a small village about fourteen miles from Hazareebaugh. It is dug out from a few feet below the surface of the ground, and after being once melted, as in the accompanying specimen, is sold in the bazar for 24 seers per Rupee. The iron from this is said to be very hard and brittle. Any quantity of this may also be procured.

“ Coal is also to be had in great abundance in the vicinity, though the Natives have never yet made any use of it.

“ A large vein of coal, as per specimen, crops out on a hill side about ten miles from this, from whence it is brought and sold in the bazar at Rupees 7 or 8 per hundred maunds. This price, however, might be much reduced by making a proper road to the coal field.

“ With reference to the price at which cast-iron may be manufactured here, and sold in the Calcutta market, I am afraid it would require one practically connected with a foundry to make a correct estimate. I observe it stated in the *Friend of India*, of the 23rd instant, that the East India Railway Company would at present gladly pay £7 per ton

“ for iron; it therefore remains for a practical man to state whether it be possible for iron ore, with price as given above and as per margin, and with coals at Rupees 2 per ton, to produce good iron at or under Rupees 50 per ton, (Rupees 20 per ton being deducted for conveyance to Calcutta.) That he may be able to come to a satisfactory conclusion, I may mention that kunkur* and all building materials, as well as labor, are extremely cheap here.”

220. I recommend that these particulars should be communicated to the Officers of the Railway. They possibly may be of use to them.

221 to 227. * * * * *

*Price of kunkur, 12 annas per ton.

No. 17.

To

H. RICKETTS, ESQUIRE,
 Member, Sudder Board of Revenue,
 (On Deputation,) Hazarcebaugh

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to bring to your notice the following statements with regard to matters connected with the performance of my public duties, as Medical Officer of this Station.

2. In the first place, I have the honor to request your particular attention to the fact, that I experience very great difficulty in having the various periodical Reports and Returns of my Office prepared with an degree of celerity, owing to the circumstance of the Magistrate's Writers not being able to afford me aid, till such time as they may have leisure from the duties of their own Office, and the consequence is, that the Returns, &c., from my Office, *are always in arrears*. A considerable amount of work has to be performed for my Office, as I have no less than three separate Establishments under my charge, and Returns, &c., have to be furnished periodically for each. The establishments are—The District Jail, monthly average number of Prisoners for 1853, 405; the Agency Jail, monthly average number of prisoners for 1853, 552½; and the Sepoy Hospital, monthly average number of Troops for 1853, 162. The Reports and Returns for these three Establishments amount to twelve Monthly, besides Quarterly, Half-Yearly, and Annual Reports &c. &c., and about one hundred public or service letters per annum. For all this Office work I have to depend upon the casual aid of the Magistrate's Writers, and it is only after much difficulty, *and delay*, that I can obtain the preparation of the various documents. Altogether, the work in my Office is sufficient to employ one writer attending daily, and I trust therefore that you will be pleased to recommend that a Writer be attached to my Office, especially as a Meteorological Register has to be kept daily, the number of observations amounting to *twenty-four*, at four *stated* and *different* periods of the day, and any necessary, or unavoidable absence on my part, causes *gaps* in the Register, thereby rendering the same comparatively useless and of no value.

3. The *Sepoy* Hospital has attached to it one Native Doctor and one Dresser, but the two Jails, have but one Native Doctor each *and no Dresser*, and I would therefore beg to recommend that a Dresser be attached to each of the two Jails.

4. There is no Native Vaccinator at this Station, and I beg therefore that I may be permitted to entertain one, for although the Natives are averse to the practice of vaccination, yet I am of opinion, that every available means should be employed to induce them to adopt this most desirable practice, and abandon their own system of Small-pox Inoculation.

5. I would also beg to recommend, that all the mud floors in the District Jail be made *pukka* throughout, such floors being more conducive to cleanliness, and at the same time, were each prisoner allowed some planks, in all some three feet wide, whereon to sleep, all danger of any ill effects from dampness, &c., would, in my opinion, be almost entirely obviated. This *plank bed* might be deemed preferable to a charpoy, and could be placed on small supports of masonry, so that the "bed" could be removed daily.

6. I also beg to suggest the propriety of removing the Sepoy Hospital from the District Jail, and erecting one for the use of the Troops, in some locality that may hereafter be deemed the most eligible.

7. Lastly, I beg to be permitted to request that you will be pleased to bring to the notice of Government, the fact of my not receiving any extra allowance for attendance on the Agency Jail, (distant nearly two miles from the *District* Jail,) whereas my predecessor, Dr. Callum, drew Rupees 50 monthly, for such extra duty, under the orders of Government, dated No. 812, 10th May 1847, to which orders I beg that reference may be made as no copy of the same is to be found in this Office.

8. In conclusion, I beg most respectfully to observe, that my allowances at this Station, as Civil Assistant Surgeon, amount to Rupees 350 and Rupees 20 monthly as Head-money for the Troops, being in all but Rupees 370 monthly, (and no other extra whatever,) for medical charge of the Station, nearly 1,000 prisoners, in *two separate* Jails, situated nearly two miles from each other, and 162 Sepoys, being Rupees 50 monthly *less* than is granted to a Medical Officer in charge of a Regiment, or even of a wing of a Regiment. I trust therefore that my claims to this extra allowance of Rupees 50 monthly, for extra duty as being in medical attendance on the Agency Jail, (and as being a *separate*

charge from that of the Station and *District Jail*,) may meet with due consideration, and that Government may be pleased at once to sanction the grant to me of the allowance in question, as drawn by my predecessor, Dr. Callum. I beg also to state, in support of my claim to the extra allowance, as drawn by Dr. Callum, the fact, that *since the departure* of Dr. Callum, the number of prisoners confined in the Agency Jail has been *nearly doubled*, the average of prisoners having been at the period of Dr. Callum's departure but 300, whereas for the past year the average was no less than 552.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) J. P. KELLY,
Civil Assistant Surgeon.

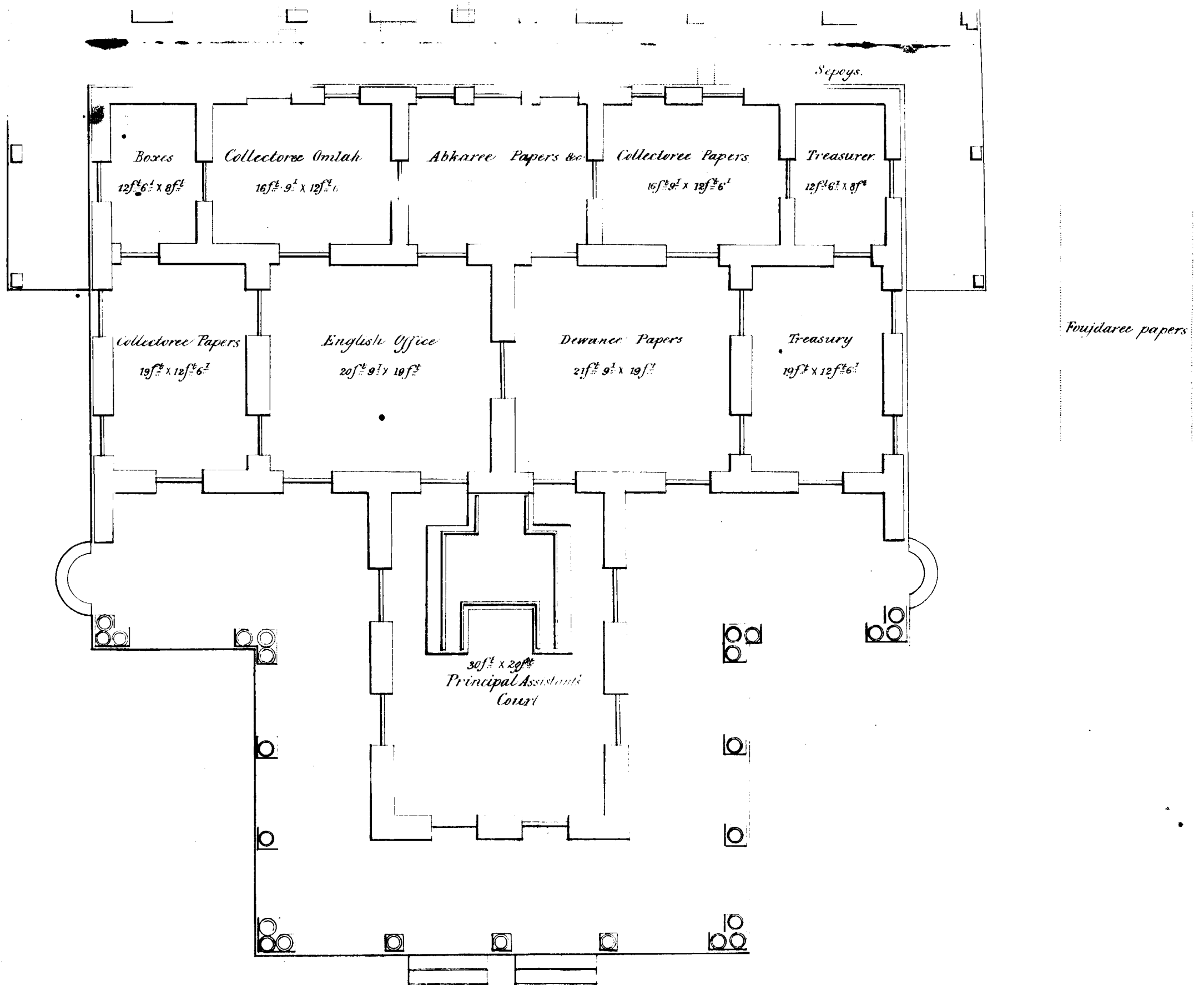
HAZAREEBAUGH, }
2nd March 1854. }

Rutheer
 of the
 PRINCE ASSISTANT TO THE GOVERNOR GENERAL
 HAZAREEBAUGH.

16f⁶ x 16f⁶

38f⁶ x 16f⁶

16f⁶ x 16f⁶



PLAN OF THE STATION of HAZAREEBAGH.

Scale of Feet

REFERENCE

Captain Simpson's Bungalow
 Kutcherry
 Empty Bungalows
 Invol. Rajah's Bungalow
 Government Bungalows
 Missionarys Ds
 Old Dak Bungalow
 Old Burial Ground
 Post Office
 New Church
 Barrack Godown
 Barracks
 Agency Jail Premises
 Markundaus' Houses for Ds
 Channak
 Native Lines
 District Jail
 Circuit House
 Present Burial Ground
 Tanks



(Sd.) A. P. Scott Mon
 Offg. Ex. Officer.

MEMORANDUM
OF
PROPOSALS CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT.

PARA. 5. That Mr. Babyngton's house and ground be purchased for 6,000 Rupees, if not to be had for less.

28. That the taxes on trades be continued.

30. That the settlement made by the Assistant be allowed to stand for seven years.

34. That the Ferry collections, those in deposit and those collected in future, be expended in improving the town.

37. That a Head Master be appointed to the Sumbhulpore School, who will agree to remain there for two years.

38. That the School-master and the Doctor appointed to Sumbhulpore should, if possible, be fit companions for the Assistant, and that the Officer in command of the detachment of Troops should be a European.

39. That Sumbhulpore should be transferred to Cuttack. That if Sumbhulpore be transferred, Shonpore and Byracole be transferred also; that it be considered, whether it would not be advisable to transfer all the estates South of the Mahanuddee, and that the Rajahs of the estates so situated be called upon to state whether they have any objections to the transfer.

(Signed) HENRY RICKETTS.

MEMORANDUM
OF
PROPOSALS CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT.

PARA. 5. That Mr. Babyngton's house and ground be purchased for 6,000 Rupees, if not to be had for less.

28. That the taxes on trades be continued.

30. That the settlement made by the Assistant be allowed to stand for seven years.

34. That the Ferry collections, those in deposit and those collected in future, be expended in improving the town.

37. That a Head Master be appointed to the Sumbhulpore School, who will agree to remain there for two years.

38. That the School-master and the Doctor appointed to Sumbhulpore should, if possible, be fit companions for the Assistant, and that the Officer in command of the detachment of Troops should be a European.

39. That Sumbhulpore should be transferred to Cuttack. That if Sumbhulpore be transferred, Shonpore and Byracole be transferred also ; that it be considered, whether it would not be advisable to transfer all the estates South of the Mahanuddee, and that the Rajahs of the estates so situated be called upon to state whether they have any objections to the transfer.

(Signed) HENRY RICKETTS.

SUMBHULPORE.

THE area of Sumbhulpore is estimated to be 10,800 square miles, the population is supposed to be at 2,76,416. The area, I think, must be considerably over-estimated. The truth will soon be learned from Lieutenant Saxton's survey.

2. Though no European has for long together continued healthy at Sumbhulpore, Mr. Campbell does not consider the climate so prejudicial to health as it has been supposed to be. The unhealthy period is from the middle of September to November. Though the heat is extreme in April and May, those months are not unhealthy. The close damp heat that prevails during the rains in Bengal is never felt at Sumbhulpore. Mr. Campbell is of opinion, that on the whole, it would not be advantageous to remove the Sudder Station from Sumbhulpore. During his five years' residence, he has visited much of the open part of the District, and he has not seen any place which he considers preferable. It must be useless to search for a cool place in Sumbhulpore without leaving the Mahanuddee. We have no information of any table-land raised 4 or 5,000 feet: below that elevation all parts of Sumbhulpore must be hot.

3. It is true that the European Officers have suffered, but there is much reason to hope, that when suitable Office accommodation shall have been provided, and means afforded of bringing into use some of the many contrivances for reducing the heat now adopted in other hot places, and when all causes of noxious exhalations shall have been removed, Sumbhulpore may become as tolerable as other low places in the same latitude.

4. Paragraph 16 of the Orders of the Government, dated the 22nd January 1849, says—"In all places of this sort, the Deputy Governor believes that much depends on the Officer having a good house and "Office in a well-selected spot." The place in which the Assistant still holds his Office is represented to be confined, and, in the hot weather and rains, unwholesome. Mr. Babyngton has offered his house* to the Government for Rupees 5,000, the house and all the ground round it for

* See plan annexed.

SUMBHULPORE.

THE area of Sumbhulpore is estimated to be 10,800 square miles, the population is supposed to be at 2,76,416. The area, I think, must be considerably over-estimated. The truth will soon be learned from Lieutenant Saxton's survey.

2. Though no European has for long together continued healthy at Sumbhulpore, Mr. Campbell does not consider the climate so prejudicial to health as it has been supposed to be. The unhealthy period is from the middle of September to November. Though the heat is extreme in April and May, those months are not unhealthy. The close damp heat that prevails during the rains in Bengal is never felt at Sumbhulpore. Mr. Campbell is of opinion, that on the whole, it would not be advantageous to remove the Sudder Station from Sumbhulpore. During his five years' residence, he has visited much of the open part of the District, and he has not seen any place which he considers preferable. It must be useless to search for a cool place in Sumbhulpore without leaving the Mahanuddee. We have no information of any table-land raised 4 or 5,000 feet: below that elevation all parts of Sumbhulpore must be hot.

3. It is true that the European Officers have suffered, but there is much reason to hope, that when suitable Office accommodation shall have been provided, and means afforded of bringing into use some of the many contrivances for reducing the heat now adopted in other hot places, and when all causes of noxious exhalations shall have been removed, Sumbhulpore may become as tolerable as other low places in the same latitude.

4. Paragraph 16 of the Orders of the Government, dated the 22nd January 1849, says—"In all places of this sort, the Deputy Governor believes that much depends on the Officer having a good house and "Office in a well-selected spot." The place in which the Assistant still holds his Office is represented to be confined, and, in the hot weather and rains, unwholesome. Mr. Babyngton has offered his house* to the Government for Rupees 5,000, the house and all the ground round it for

* See plan annexed.

Rupees 6,000, and the Agent is of opinion that the whole should be purchased. The Assistant, Mr. Campbell, values the house at Rupees 4,000: it is said to have cost 13 or 14,000 Rupees.

5. I strongly recommend, that the house and all the ground round it, belonging to Mr. Babyngton, be immediately purchased by the Government for Rupees 6,000, if it cannot be procured at a less cost. Doubtless it is the best site available at Sumbhulpore,* and it is most desirable that the Assistant should immediately have a good house and office; and this will do for both. Moreover, looking to the position of Sumbhulpore, and the events passing at Nagpore, it cannot be doubted that Sumbhulpore will greatly increase in consequence, and it is desirable that this ground should not pass into other hands.

6. Mr. Allen reports the Jail to be a bad one, one and a half miles from the Kutcherry, and in an unhealthy place. Should the Kutcherry be fixed at Mr. Babyngton's house, it will be desirable to procure a healthy locality, a little, but not much, nearer. In this Division it has been usual to bring the Jails a great deal too near the Magistrate's residence and the town.

7. I have perused all the papers connected with the first, and the proposed settlement of Sumbhulpore, lately submitted to the Agent by the Officiating Principal Assistant, Mr. Campbell, and I have had several conversations on the subject with the Agent, who, having visited Sumbhulpore, met me at Rainchee.

8. Mr. Allen was a fortnight at Sumbhulpore and canvassed the merits of the settlement with the Settlement Officer, Mr. Campbell, and the assembled Goomteas. As he is about to submit to Government a Report on the settlement with all the necessary details, I shall confine myself to the general features of the proceedings about to be submitted for approval. It appeared in conversation, that there was little, if any, difference in the estimation in which the proceedings are held by each of us respectively, but I gathered that Mr. Allen was inclined to grant longer leases than, in my opinion, would be desirable, till more shall be known of the resources of the District. Dr. Cadenhead acknowledged that he knew nothing, and little has been learned since.

9. The land is held, by Zemindars or Gourhuttees claiming settlement in perpetuity, who hold 196 villages and 75 hamlets; Goomteas, who hold 801 villages and 445 hamlets; Khyratdars, who hold 114½

* See plan annexed prepared for me by Mr. Graham.

villages and 54 hamlets; and Lakrajders, who hold 10 villages and 18 hamlets.

10. The system appears to be a very good village system. Every village is under the direct management of a Goomtea. The value, or rather the yearly rent, of each village, is roughly estimated, and the amount of the assessment the Goomtea has to pay for better or worse. He is responsible for the well being of the village—is expected to bring waste land into cultivation—to act as arbitrator in cases of petty disputes among the ryots—to report all cases of murder, robbery or theft to the local authorities, and to assist the Police, when called upon to do so. On the due and able performance of all these duties, and his regularity in paying his revenue, a renewal of his lease on expiry mainly depends. As his remuneration, he enjoys, rent free, a portion, usually about a quarter, of the best land of the village. The land is styled the bograh. I can distinguish little, if any, difference between the Goomtea and the Pudhan and Surbarakar of Khurdah and Cuttack. It is not mentioned whether on a Goomtea dying his son succeeds.

11. Under the Goomtea is the Nuggea, who collects the rents and keeps the accounts, and takes the place of the Goomtea, as head of the village, during his absence. Here we have, under another name, the Putwaree-Kargee of the Cuttack Province. The Nuggea enjoys a small portion of land rent free—how much is not stated.

12. It does not appear that the service lands held by the Goomtea and the Nuggea are regulated by the extent of their responsibility, or the quantity of labour they have to perform. It might be an improvement on the existing system if the quantity of land held by each was made proportionate to their payments, and by this means their endeavours to improve secured.

13. The Jhankur or Village Priest is also allowed to cultivate rent free a portion of generally first-rate land. The produce of this land is ostensibly set apart for the propitiation of the Jungle God, but it appears, that in Sumbhulpore, as in other places, endowments are abused, and the produce intended to be spent in propitiating the Jungle God to protect the people against tigers, evil spirits, witches, &c., is appropriated by the priest to his own purposes. Lastly, comes the Ganda, a village servant of low caste, who performs the menial work about the village and carries messages—the Gorait of other parts: he also holds a small portion of land rent free.

14. The rents paid by the ryots are not adjusted with reference exclusively to productiveness and advantage of situation. No system of measurement has ever been introduced. The assessment is a name sum per pooree. A pooree of land is as much land as will produce a pooree of paddy, but the system is not fully carried out. The Settlement Officer says, that a pooree of good land is more valuable than a pooree of inferior land. A pooree of good land must be oftentimes less in extent than a pooree of inferior land, but of equal value, there being less labor in producing a crop from good land than from inferior land. The best land, or behar, that which from position always bears a crop, is divided proportionately among all the ryots. If the good land of a village is as 1 to 3 to the inferior land, a ryot who takes a quantity of good land must agree to take three times that quantity of inferior land. The system of bringing the good land and the inferior land together, by demanding a considerably higher rate on the former, does not appear to have been introduced.

15. Mr. Campbell states, that after much inquiry, he can pretty confidently say, that the revenue paid is about Rupees 2-12-6 per pooree of land, producing about eight poorees of paddy. I gain from the Report, that a pooree equals seven maunds: Rupees 2-12-6, therefore, is paid for land producing fifty-six maunds of paddy. The wholesale price of common rice in the cold season may be about five maunds per Rupee, so that the assessment is about 25 per cent. on the gross produce of the ryotee lands.

16. There is another system of assessment more favorable to the ryots, under which the Goomtea, when he has obtained a lease, contenting himself with his service land, calls the ryots together and assesses on them the sum he has to pay, and no more. It is calculated, that the benefit to the ryots by this system, as compared with the pooree system, is not less than 25 per cent.

17. These Goomteas form a large and important class—in fact, they constitute the yeomanry of the country. They hold 801½ villages and 445 hamlets, or, as such tenures would be described in other parts, they hold 101 “ussullec” and 445 “dakelee” villages, and are assessed at Rupees 76,029 per annum. The leases of the Goomteas have generally been for five years, the last lease was for three only.

18. I have said there are sixteen Zemindars, who hold considerable possessions, paying a very light revenue to the State. They are for

the most part connected with the family of the late Rajah, or obtained the grants for service rendered to the family by their forefathers, but of these six, only are of any considerable extent, the rest consist of two or three jungle villages, which have been left unassessed in the hands of the Khonds, who held them, with a view to lead them to peaceable avocations. The jumma paid by the sixteen Zemindars above alluded to is Rupees 4,296, which may be estimated at from 25 to 50 per cent. on the jumma collected from the Goomteas.

19. Mr. Campbell says—“Some of them have, in the new settlement, agreed to a slight increase on their last jummas: this may, in time, be made a precedent for bringing the whole under a fair increased rate of assessment. Any immediate interference, however, in their alleged right to exemption from taxation and to settlement in perpetuity, would, I think, be impolitic. I have refrained from making any demand on them, those that have offered to pay a slight increase have done so voluntarily.”

20. In reply to a call for further information from the Agent, Mr. Campbell replied—“I am not aware of any very minute inquiry having been made into the nature of the documents on which the Zemindars hold their tenures—on the contrary, it appears, that the fact of their having been in undisturbed possession for generations, and of no extraordinary demands having been made on them, was considered a sufficient ground for not interfering with their alleged rights and privileges. It will be advisable, during the currency of the present settlement, to define and settle the boundaries of all these Zemindaries, and the opportunity might be taken, at the same time, of examining and testing the validity of their title-deeds.”

21. The increased revenue was obtained by Mr. Campbell, in a personal interview with some of them, telling them, that it would be creditable to themselves, considering the forbearance that Government had shown in not interfering with them at all, if they voluntarily, in the present settlement, came forward with an offer to pay some increase. Several accordingly did so. I do not think this sort of begging either creditable or circumspect, and the increase so procured is trifling, Rupees 239-3-5; I would not accept it, but allow the Zemindars to continue to hold at the jumma they have hitherto paid, till inquiry shall show what demand can fairly be made upon them. The extent of land held by these Zemindars, and the resources of their tenures, are no more known now

than they were when Mr. Cadenhead made his first settlement in 1850.

22. Respecting the Goomtea villages, Mr. Campbell writes—"The absence of any thing like a fixed rate of assessment or land measurement in the District renders it extremely difficult to come to any thing like an accurate conclusion regarding its fiscal capabilities." In fact, the only ground for any opinion as to the resources and capabilities of the country was the amount of revenue demanded and the facility with which it had been paid. His first step on the formation of the new settlement was "the issue of a proclamation, inviting tenders for fresh leases of all the Goomtea villages, at such increased rates as experience had shown they were well capable of yielding," but, as I have said, we had learned nothing from the three years' experience but the facility with which the revenue assessed was paid. There had been no inquiries respecting markets, and demand for produce prices and the value of labor, the want of which Dr. Cadenhead lamented as diminishing the value of his proceedings in 1850!

23. Mr. Campbell proceeds—"Considering, however, that our limited experience would not warrant my accepting the highest bids indiscriminately, I have judged it more prudent to limit our demand in the present settlement to an increase of about 20 per cent. on the last jumma." It is evident, that the increase is imposed without any information as to capabilities. In answer to a call for explanation from the Agent, desiring to know upon what principle, and upon what grounds, the rents of the Goomteas had been increased, Mr. Campbell replied, that "he considered it the paramount duty of a Settlement Officer to bear in mind, that whenever fairly practicable, the interests of the Government demand a revision of the former assessments, with the view of increasing the revenue, without, at the same time, losing sight of what is due to the party assessed," that personal observation and experience convinced him that the increase demanded could be levied from the Goomteas without difficulty or fear of over-taxation, and that this had been abundantly proved by the readiness with which nearly all the Goomteas agreed to the increase, and by the facility with which the first instalment of the increased demand had been paid, that the amount of increase levied depended chiefly on the amount offered by the Goomteas, those having good villages having offered more than those who had villages less remunerating.

24. I do not consider this by any means a satisfactory explanation.

Total Jumma of the new Settlement is—		
Zemindaries,	4,296	0 0
Goomtea village,	76,029	0 0
Khyrut,	4,667	8 0
Detached lands not yet included under any particular head, }	422	0 0
	85,414	8 0

Being an increase on the last settlement of Rupees 16,485-12-4½.

The information on which this settlement is based is not more circumstantial than that on which Dr. Cadenhead based his settlement; and it is perfectly possible—indeed it is very probable—that the demand on the several villages is by no means relatively proportionate, though upon the whole it may be

paid without difficulty; but there is not much room to fear, that any one is over-assessed, for on a Goomteas objecting to the sum demanded, a Punchayet of Goomteas was assembled, and whatever the Punchayet reported to be a proper assessment was imposed.

25. Out of the 615 Goomteas, 598 had actually filed engagements, and when the Governor General's Agent was at Sumbhulpore, some 250 of the Goomteas waited on him, and expressed themselves satisfied with the terms offered; and Mr. Campbell assures the Agent, that since the settlement was effected, he has visited many parts of the District, and all classes appeared quite contented.

26. The taxes on castes and trades are continued. The amount collected is Rupees 3,953-12-0.

27. Dr. Cadenhead, in his Report of the 23rd May 1851, represented, that upon first taking up questions connected with these taxes, he was disposed to recommend their entire abolition, and the adoption of a tax upon all houses, or sites of houses, he said—"Such an impost would fall upon large numbers of persons, comparatively wealthy, who at present pay no tax: would be onerous or vexatious to none, and while giving a larger return would give also the means of a much fair incidence of taxation than the system now in force," but he thought it undesirable to introduce such a change immediately on taking possession of the country, and the taxes on trades were continued.

28. There does not appear to me to be any sufficient reason for relinquishing the tax now levied—indeed, I am inclined to the opinion, that it may be more suitable, if very carefully regulated, than a house-tax, as imposed at Sumbhulpore: it partakes of the character of an income-tax on all those who do not pay land revenue. Careful revision is necessary in order to proportionate imposition, and could it, by means of

the system of assessment by Panchayet, which so generally prevails in the District, be extended to all those who have hitherto escaped payment of any tax, and who consequently enjoy gratis the protection procured by the payments of their fellow-countrymen, I should regard it as still more worthy of approval.

29. Though I think it is to be regretted, that the settlement now made was not preceded by more detailed inquiries of the nature contemplated by Dr. Cadenhead, when he wrote the passages of his Report quoted in the margin, still I would not withhold a settlement till all the information necessary to a satisfactory adjustment had been collected and digested. The people are anxious for a twenty years' lease. They have been accustomed to leases

"The extent of land actually held rent free throughout the Zemindary, under these several tenures, has never apparently been ascertained, and I am consequently not in a position to make any statement respecting it, but as far as I am yet able to form even a guess about it, I should say, that it cannot be less than a quarter, or at least one-fifth of the whole of the land under cultivation. The impression appears to be general, that the nominal bograh lands of any village hardly represents the half of that which is actually held as such. The whole subject of these rent-free tenures requires strict investigation, and it will demand the best efforts of the Assistant here for two or three years, before any thing like exact information can be obtained upon it, as in fact for this a statement of the whole of the lands of every village will be needed.
"To make a revenue settlement of any degree of exactness, by which the true interests of the people and of the country shall be consulted, while the just immediate claims of the Government shall not be neglected, it is of course necessary that we should be in possession of a measurement of the lands to be assessed with at least an approximate estimate of their relative fertility of some information respecting the markets, and demand for produce of prices, and of the value of labor. In the case of Sumbhulpore, information on all these points, upon which any reliance could be placed, is still wanting; and without additional machinery, in consequence of heavy Office work, which the Assistant has to get through, it will take a very long time, not less than three or four years, to collect it. Under these circumstances, it is a matter of some delicacy to submit a proposition for a settlement, which shall appear to have any claims to the confidence of the Government, and I trust that the one I now venture to submit will be viewed with the indulgence due to the difficulties of my position."

for five years. In order to foster the feeling of security so necessary to the successful management of a new country lease a little longer than those which have been usual among them, are I think necessary. I would allow the arrangement made by the Assistant to stand for seven years, and having assured all classes of undisturbed possession for that period, commence forthwith the investigations necessary, previous to a settlement for a longer term, and should they be completed before the expiration of the seven years' settlement, at once extend the lease to twenty or twenty-five years. It might be advantageous to grant an extended lease as soon as the inquiries in a Mehal shall have been completed; provided they are conducted with circumspection and modera-

tion, and the terms of settlement be liberal, confidence will be increased rather than diminished by the proceedings.

30. Besides the usual staple, rice, sugar is cultivated to the extent of about 10,000 maunds of gour per annum: the common country cotton is cultivated in small quantities, about 10,000 maunds per annum is annually exported on bullocks to Cuttack. Iron of a superior quality is found all over the District, and gold dust in small quantities is procured in the sands of the Mahanuddee and some of its tributaries. Diamonds of considerable value are said to have been found in the same streams, and till lately diamond hunters held lands and paid taxes, but the calling is not considered remunerative.

31. The imports into the Province are inconsiderable, with the exception of salt and brass vessels from Cuttack.

32. There is no regular Police Thannah Establishment. Two Jemadars, two Duffadars, and eight Burkundazes are divided between Sumbhulpore and Pergunnahs Chunderpore and Puddumpore.

33. There are on an average 125 prisoners in the Jail. The Assistant reported, in answer to my call for information, that the use of opium and tobacco was not prohibited; that a limited quantity is allowed, but the Agent informs me, that he has now prohibited both, except when considered necessary by the Medical Officer. The cost of a laboring convict is but Rupees 1-2-7½ per month, but the rations allowed appear to be more than is absolutely necessary. Thirteen chittacks of rice, four chittacks of doll, and two chittacks of vegetables is more than a man can eat in Bengal, but perhaps the climate being less relaxing than that of Bengal, a person may be able to consume a larger quantity of food. The convicts are employed on the roads in and about the town, and in keeping clean the approaches to it. They could not be more profitably employed.

34. The Ferry collections were, in 1850, expended in clearing and widening a portion of the main street of the town. They have since been held in deposit, pending orders for their disposal. The amount is trifling, Rupees 227 per annum. I recommend that the sum now in deposit, and the future proceeds, be laid out by the Assistant with the sanction of the Governor General's Agent in improving the Station, especially those parts in the neighbourhood of the Assistant's Office, with a view especially of improving its healthiness.

35. The Goomteeas have agreed to keep up all village roads in repair, and to make, or assist in making, any new roads that may be required.

36. The sale of opium is said to have fallen off considerably since the number of vendors was increased. This requires explanation.

37. The Sumbhulpore School is, considering all the circumstances connected with it, in a very flourishing condition. The number on the books has increased from 88 in the third quarter of 1852 to 125 in the third quarter of 1853, and the attendance has increased from 61 to 91. Mr. Campbell begs, that I will impress on the Council of Education the necessity of appointing as Head Master an individual not only well qualified to teach, but one who will be prepared to remain for one or two years. During the time the Sumbhulpore School has existed, namely, fifteen months, it has had a Head Master for only eight: the first incumbent, after remaining five months, went away sick, and the last, after remaining three, was ordered to Furreedpore.

38. It is very desirable, that if possible, a School Master should be appointed to this School, who will be a fit companion for the Assistant. The Doctor also should be a European. At these remote Stations, in my opinion, it should always be borne in mind, that the efficiency of all Departments must be promoted by the few Officers stationed at them, being fit companions for each other. At such a place as Sumbhulpore, the unhealthiness of which is proverbial, and the difficulty of escaping from which so greatly increases the apprehension of sickness, loneliness is certain to cause a pre-disposition to disease and to lessen the powers of resisting an attack. I would always have a European in command of the detachment of Troops, and vest him with powers of Assistant, with a view to provide a companion for the Principal Assistant, to give confidence to all, and to repress those who might be inclined to create disturbances.

38½. Mr. Crawford, in the 9th paragraph of his letter of the 27th May, represented, that whenever it happened, as it sometimes might, that either the Post Master or the Sub-Assistant Surgeon was qualified for the duty, it might be desirable, that he should be vested with the powers of a Moonsiff. In these Districts I would always carry out with reference to the lower Offices, the principle of the constitution of the higher Offices, and make every person employed as far as possible useful in all Departments.

39. After much consideration, I am decidedly of opinion, that unless some reasonable and strong objections can be offered by the inhabitants, Sumbhulpore should be transferred to Cuttack. The inhabitants are most of them Oorfeahs, and have no affinity or community of interest of any kind with the people of Chota Nagpore. The distance between Sumbhulpore and Chota Nagpore is farther than between Sumbhulpore and Cuttack. The communication is always difficult between Sumbhulpore and Chota Nagpore, it is never difficult, and for several months of the year, very easy between Sumbhulpore and Cuttack. There is little, if any, trade between Sumbhulpore and Chota Nagpore; there is a considerable trade between Sumbhulpore and Cuttack. The possession of Ungool must occasionally take the Superintendent of the Tributary Mehals nearly half way to Sumbhulpore; it will occupy but little of his time to go on; whereas the journey from Chota Nagpore to Sumbhulpore must always occupy a considerable time. The Orders of the 22nd January 1849 contemplated the retirement of the Sumbhulpore Assistant to Cuttack during the unhealthy season, from the conviction that he would in reality be much more effective if he avoided the unhealthy season at Sumbhulpore than he would be if he remained all the year round at that place. As remarked by the Government, the certainty of the Assistant's return at a given time will prevent great abuses in his absence.

40. If Sumbhulpore is transferred to Cuttack, Shonpore and Byracole should be transferred also, for they lie between Sumbhulpore and Ungool, and I think it is worthy of consideration, whether the under-mentioned Mehals, which are all South of the Mahanuddee, and the most distant nearer to Cuttack than to Chota Nagpore, should not be transferred also:—

	<i>Tribute.</i> Rs.	<i>Arca.</i> Miles.	<i>Summa.</i>
Shonpore, ..	5,333 5 4	1,500	
Byracole, ..	600 0 0	1,700	
Patna,			600
Boorasamba,			160
Khureear,			1,600
Bindia Nyagurh,			400
Bhooligurh,			410
Saringurh,			1,400

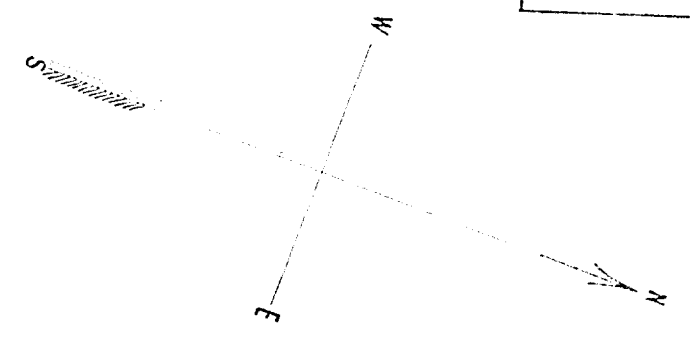
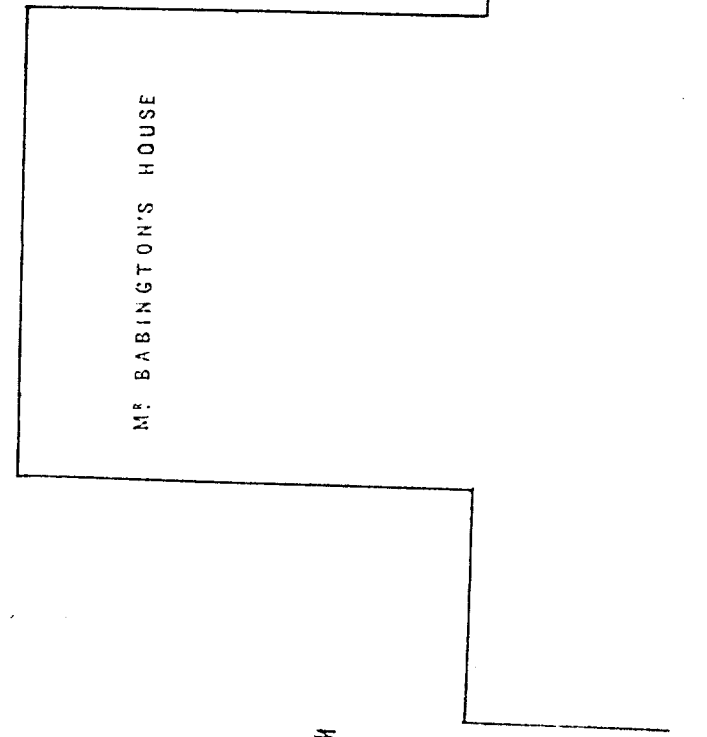
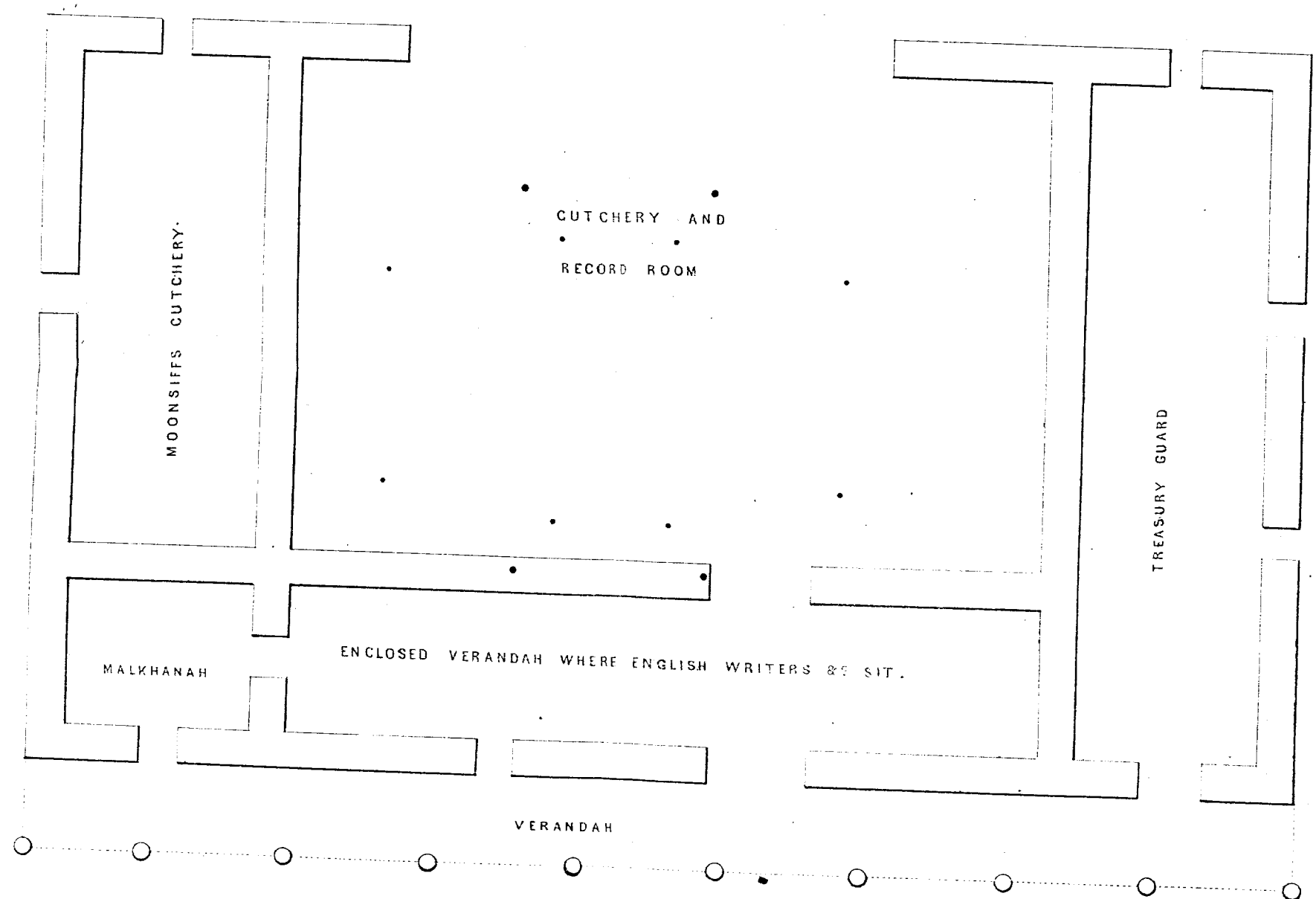
41. The Officer in charge of Sumbhulpore might conveniently superintend the affairs of all these estates, and receive the revenue paid by them. I recommend that the Rajahs be called upon to state, whether they have

any, and if any, what objections to the transfer. I anticipate that objections will be offered, from the fear, that if transferred to Cuttack, the possessions will be measured, and the Cuttack system of settlement introduced, but if it is properly explained to them, that no such measure is contemplated, that they will be treated as the Tributary Mehals of Cuttack are treated, with the exception of their settlement being temporary only, whereas all the Cuttack Mehals are settled in perpetuity, I do not think any other objections worthy of attention can be offered.

P. S.—Since the above was written, I have learned from the Agent, that since he left Sumbhulpore, the buildings in the compound of Mr. Babyngton's house, which he valued at Rupees 1,000, have been stript of every moveable article, even to the tiles of the roofing, and the Assistant represents, that the title to the ground, on which these buildings stand, may be open to question. Of course, if the purchase of the property be considered advisable, the title to the land will be duly examined by the Law Officer of the Government.

(Signed) HENRY RICKETTS.

Plan
OF
SUMBULPORE CUTCHERY



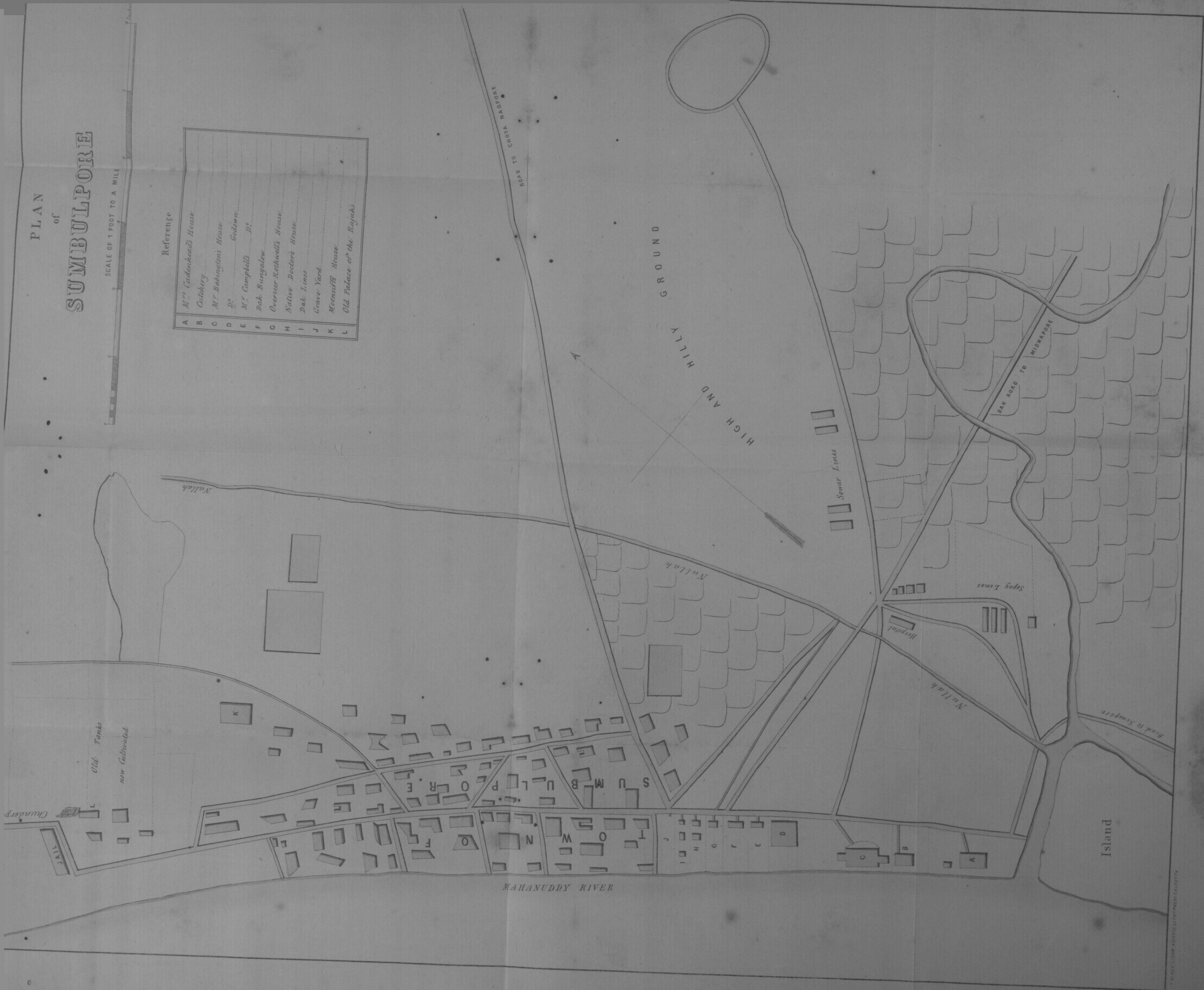
SCALE - AN INCH TO A YARD.

PLAN of SUMBULPORE

SCALE OF 1 FOOT TO A MILE

Reference

A	M ^{rs} Cadenhead's House
B	Catchery
C	M ^r Babington's House
D	D ^o
E	M ^r Campbell's D ^o
F	Dak Bungalow
G	Overier Rathwell's House
H	Native Doctor's House
I	Dak Lines
J	Grave Yard
K	Moonlight House
L	Old Palace of the Rajahs



MEMORANDUM
OF
PROPOSALS, CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT.

PARA. 6. That the Governor General's Agent should refer for trial to the Deputy Commissioner any case from the Political Estates which he cannot himself timely dispose of.

10. That the Principal Assistants in charge of Districts should not be allowed to commit for trial, cases which, under the local rule, giving them authority to pass a sentence of seven years' imprisonment, reporting their proceedings to the Deputy Commissioner, they can themselves dispose of.

23. That in all cases of wilful murder, when the sentence on conviction must be death, the evidence of witnesses should be taken before the Agent or an Officer deputed by him.

25. That the Rajahs be vested with increased or decreased authority with reference to their efficiency, and that increased authority be regarded as conferring credit and honor on the Chief entrusted with it.

27. That the Rajahs be divided into four classes, with reference to their efficiency.

29. That a Native Assistant to the Agent be appointed and employed on occasions to hold trials at the Gurhs of the several Rajahs.

31. That Hindee school-books be distributed gratuitously, wherever a School with twenty-five boys is found.

32. That a second Writer on Rupees 20, and a Dufteree on Rupees 6, be added to the establishment of the Deputy Commissioner.

33. That the Officer doing duty with the Battalion should always be Assistant to the Principal Assistant of Lohardugga and to the Agent.

34. That if an Uncovenanted Officer be appointed to Chyebassa, it should be a person who understands the management of troops, and that he should have a local commission.

38. That the Calcutta dāk should go to Purulia and Chyebassa, *viâ* Bancoorah, instead of round by Golah and Rainchee, and that the runners between Rainchee and Chyebassa be taken off the road.

40. That the number of runners between Rainchee and Sumbhulpore be increased.

43. That runners be placed on the road between Rainchee and Kornda.

SOUTH-WEST FRONTIER AGENCY.

As the printed letter of the Agent, dated the 12th June 1852, contains an account of all the Gurhjat Mehals subject to his authority, recapitulation in this place is unnecessary. The settlements are all temporary, except those of Raigurh and Sucktee. The former is settled in perpetuity. There are no records, from which the nature of the settlement of Sucktee can be ascertained.

2. In his letter of the 25th December 1845, the Governor General's Agent thus described the duties of his own Office and the Office of the Deputy Commissioner :—"The Agent and Commissioner has the superintendency of every Department, is Superintendent of Police, and performs all Political and Revenue duties, and some Civil in the three Regulation Districts, and all Revenue, Criminal, Civil, and Political business of the South-West Frontier Agency. The Deputy Commissioner takes all Sessions cases and Criminal appeals in the Regulation Districts (Police cases, such as dismissal and fine excepted); all the Civil cases, excepting those involving succession in large Zemindaries, and those between the estates of the Political Agency and the Regulation Districts. The supervision of the Jails is with the Agent. Formerly, appeals from the decisions of the Principal Sudder Ameens in Civil suits were heard by the Principal Assistants, now they are heard by the Deputy Commissioner."

3. In para. 5 of his letter of the 27th May 1853, the late Agent, Mr. Crawford, wrote—"With the exception of the reserved jurisdiction thus practically held by him (the jurisdiction of exempting estates from sale,) in cases of execution of decrees, in which land is concerned and a general responsibility for the proper working of all establishments subordinate to his Office, the Agent has rarely any cause for interference with the judicial business of the three Districts in question, which is conducted locally by the Deputy Commissioner, under

, b b

" the immediate control of the Sudder Court. In all other Departments, however, in every quarter of the Agency, excepting the Abkar Department of Manbhoom, which will be noticed presently, the Agent is the direct appellate and controlling authority."

4. In fact, no special Rules, defining the relation of the Governor General's Agent and the Deputy Commissioner, have been provided. The Agent exercises a discretionary control. The Agent has power to give orders direct to the subordinate Courts; he can modify the execution of decrees, and can prohibit the institution of a Civil suit. Major Hannington is of opinion, that it would conduce to good government and the prevention of differences, if the Deputy Commissioner were made more entirely subordinate to the Governor General's Agent than he already is. He " would have the Deputy Commissioner Assistant to the Agent and " competent to exercise any powers which the Agent might see fit to " delegate to him. Under such a system, practically, the Civil and Criminal business of the Agency would go on much as at present, but then " any interference of the Agent would be as a matter of course, and " would not be felt as an interference. At present, the Deputy Commissioner being neither formally subject to, nor formally independent " of the control of the Governor General's Agent, misunderstanding is " always possible."

5. I doubt the expediency of the alteration advocated by Major Hannington. The Deputy Commissioner would not command the influence which now attaches to his Office, if he were merely Assistant to, and in every respect subordinate to, the Governor General's Agent. Though differences have occurred, in consequence of the position of the two authorities, relatively with each other, not having been nicely defined, I have doubts whether more Rules would not create more differences. At present, the Agent is supposed to have a discretionary power of interference, but he cannot interfere with the ordinary duties of the Deputy Commissioner as Civil and Sessions Judge, without the authority of Government conferred by virtue of the power vested in the Executive by Regulation XIII. of 1833—not in each case, but in each particular description of case, in which it might be determined that the spirit of the Law was not to be regarded as the guide.

6. It has not been usual for the Governor General's Agent to seek the assistance of the Deputy Commissioner in disposing of trials connected with the Political estates, and at present there is so much

business in Major Hannington's Office, that he has not more time to spare than the Agent, but it might at times be convenient, and prevent the detention of parties and witnesses if the Agent made over to the Deputy Commissioner for trial any case connected with the Political estates, which he could not himself timely dispose of.

Having requested the Agent to furnish me with Statements showing the work of every sort performed in his Agency during the last three years, I received the under-written Returns :—

TRIALS FROM THE POLITICAL AND GURHJAT ESTATES.

A.

Statement of Cases disposed of by the Governor General's Agent, South-West Frontier, during the years 1851, 1852 and 1853.

YEARS.	Pending at the end of the preceding year.	Admitted during the year.	Total Cases.	Decided.	Pending at the end of the year.	REMARKS.
1851	1	32	33	28*	5	* One of these Cases was referred for the orders of Government.
1852	5	39	44	35†	9	† One of these was referred for the orders of Government.
1853	9	21	30	25‡	5	‡ Eight of these cases were referred for the orders of Government.

7. It will not escape observation, that during the last year, eight cases have been referred for the orders of Government, whereas during the two preceding years, only one case was referred in each year. I anticipate advantage from increasing the severity of the punishment. As I have said elsewhere, I think too great leniency has done harm.

(4)

APPEALS IN THE JUDICIAL AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS FROM ALL THE
DIVISIONS.

B.

*Statement of Cases disposed of by the Governor General's Agent,
South-West Frontier, during the years 1851, 1852 and 1853.*

YEARS.	Pending at the end of the preceding year.	Admitted during the year.	Total Cases.	Decided.	Pending at the end of the year.
1851	7	26	33	19	14
1852	14	12	26	15	11
1853	11	27	38	17	21

APPEALS IN THE REVENUE DEPARTMENT FROM THE THREE REGULATION DIVISIONS.

C.

*Statement of Cases disposed of by the Governor General's Agent,
South-West Frontier, during the years 1851, 1852 and 1853.*

YEARS.	Pending at the end of the preceding year.	Admitted during the year.	Total Cases.	Decided.	Pending at the end of the year.
1851	25	5	30	16	14
1852	14	4	18	17	1
1853	1	61	62	42	20

(5)

CIVIL AND MISCELLANEOUS APPEALS AND CASES FROM THE DIVISIONS
AND GURHJAT DISTRICTS.

D.

*Statement of Cases disposed of by the Governor General's Agent,
South-West Frontier, during the years 1851, 1852 and 1853.*

YEARS.	Pending at the end of the preceding year.	Admitted during the year.	Total Cases.	Decided.	Pending at the end of the year.
1851	46	77	123	56	67
1852	67	101	168	68	100
1853	100	175	275	145	130

MISCELLANEOUS CASES NOT EMBRACED IN THE ABOVE-MENTIONED
FOUR STATEMENTS.

E.

*Statement of Cases disposed of by the Governor General's Agent,
South-West Frontier, during the years 1851, 1852 and 1853.*

YEARS.	Pending at the end of the preceding year.	Admitted during the year.	Total Cases.	Decided.	Pending at the end of the year.	REMARKS.
1851	47	622	669	662	7	Matters of mere form and complimentary correspondence with the Native Chiefs and others are not in this Statement.
1852	7	702	709	702	7	
1853	7	699	706	698	8	

8. The total result is 927 cases of all sorts disposed of, which is at the rate of 77 per month, and 3 per day, allowing 300 working days in the year.

9. There is also a great deal of business in the Office of the Deputy Commissioner. From the beginning of 1850 to the end of 1852, he was employed 341 days in Sessions duties and disposed of 447 Criminal appeals.

10. Major Hannington represents that the Principal Assistants, since Sessions have been held at each Division, finding it easier to commit to the Sessions than to pass sentence and send up their proceedings with notes in English, have committed for trial cases which they might, under the special Rules, have disposed of themselves. This should be checked. As the Principal Assistant must go through the case before he commits it, his time is not saved by committing, instead of passing sentence himself, and the time of the Deputy Commissioner is unnecessarily occupied.

11. The Court of Sudder Dewanny Adawlut having inquired whether the Assam Rules would be suitable in Chota Nagpore, a proposition was submitted to the Court, that Assistants should have the power to pass sentences extending to fourteen years' imprisonment, but the Court disapproved of the recommendation; and it appears to me, that if the Deputy Commissioner insists on the Assistants disposing of all cases, which, under the existing Rules, are within their competence, he will be sufficiently relieved without any alteration in the constitution of their Offices.

12. In examining the correspondence, I observed that a few years ago the abolition of the Office of Deputy Commissioner was contemplated, but the returns of business in the Offices show, I think, very plainly, that at present there is not the remotest prospect of any such diminution in the business of the Offices as to encourage a hope, that at some future period one person may be able to perform the duties now devolving on the two Officers.

13. The position of Major Hannington is very similar to the position of the Civil and Sessions Judge of Cuttack, and his duties are little, if at all, less onerous. The three Districts of Hazareebaugh, Purulia and Chota Nagpore, com-

	Area.	Inhabitants.
Purulia,	7,896	7,72,340
Hazareebaugh,	12,444	6,67,585
Chota Nagpore,	7,346	6,78,759
Total,	27,686	21,18,684

	Area.	Inhabitants.
rec,	2,697	5,00,963
Cuttack,	3,061	9,00,000
Balasore,	1,979	5,00,000
Total,	7,737	19,00,963

prise a larger area and contain more inhabitants than the three Districts of the Province of Cuttack, and though the Civil jurisdiction possessed by the Principal Assistant may afford him some relief, the prevalence of the heinous crimes of dacoity and highway robbery causes his trials to be heavier than the trials in Cuttack.

14. With reference to the passage in Mr. Crawford's printed Report

Para. 8. "The system of administration which I found in force for the affairs of the Districts in question was this. The Rajahs were required to forward to this Office their proceedings in all serious or heinous cases, together with monthly Statements, which included all other cases decided by them, in order that all the former might be revised and some of the latter inquired into: also, on parties petitioning in this Office against alleged acts or orders of the Rajah, explanations were invariably called for from them."

quoted in the margin, I inquired from the Governor General's Agent, whether "on parties petitioning in his Office against acts

"or orders of a Rajah, explanation was invariably called for; whether it was considered desirable to admit trivial complaints against the Chiefs; whether they could be satisfactorily disposed of; whether the admission of such complaints, from the impracticability of giving real redress and protecting complainants from the consequences, was not more likely to injure than to benefit those who complained." Mr. Allen replied, that "there had been no alteration in the practice in force under his predecessor; that non-interference had been the prevailing policy for many years; that trivial and litigious complaints had always been disregarded and discouraged; that when a party petitions against any act or order of a Native Chief, an explanation is called for as a matter of course, but unless some error or injustice be apparent on the face of the Rajah's proceedings, it has not been usual for the Agent to interfere."

15. Mr. Allen further said, that on the whole the system appears to have worked fairly; that the Chiefs knowing that all their proceedings are liable to be brought under the scrutiny of the Agent, are more careful than they would be if no such check existed; that he had found the Native Chiefs, generally speaking, ready and willing to carry out honestly the orders of the Agent, even when opposed to their views and decisions; that he believed that in all ordinary cases, Civil and Criminal, the

Rajahs endeavoured to do what was right according to the light that was in them.

16. This Report of Mr. Allen's appears to contain the same inconsistency which attracted my notice in Mr. Crawford's Report. Non-interference is said to have been the prevailing policy; but it is also said that on a party petitioning against any act or order, explanation is called for as a matter of course. Interference is the principle; every act and order of the Rajah is open to revision by the Governor General's Agent; however trivial the matter, if the Rajah appears to have acted erroneously or unjustly, his proceedings are cancelled, and he is ordered to act otherwise. With the Gurhjat Mehals of Cuttack, on the contrary, the principle has been to recognize these Rajahs as Chiefs within their territories; and in all trivial matters, or further, in all matters not of a heinous character, or having no general interest, to regard them as free to act as they pleased; and in all trivial matters, instead of explanation being called for as a matter of course, a petition would, as a matter of course, be rejected.

17. As Mr. Allen says, the system is working well, and there are no complaints against it on the part of the Rajahs, and the check is said to make them careful and just, I am not disposed to counsel a change, but the Cuttack system of allowing the Rajahs to be in a certain degree irresponsible, provided they preserved the peace, and the inhabitants were generally contented and satisfied with their administration, appears the preferable plan.

18. I further inquired from Mr. Allen with reference to para. 9* of Mr. Crawford's printed letter, whether "heinous and serious cases" had been defined, and whether the practice of a Rajah's recording a judgment in a case which must come before the Agent had been found beneficial. He

* Para. 9. "All cases of a heinous or serious character are still regularly revised by me with as little delay as possible, the orders passed by the Rajahs being confirmed, annulled or modified by me as justice may seem to require."

informed me, that in the political estates, there had been no definition of what was to be regarded as a heinous or serious case, but the practice had been to follow the regulations; that in cases sent up for trial by the Agent, the Rajahs generally, but not always, recommended a sentence, and that he is inclined to think the practice might be omitted with advantage, for the Agent passed sentence on his own responsibility without regard to the Rajah's proposal, and consequently differences

of opinion, with respect to the measure of punishment to be awarded, arose, which would be well avoided.

19. I think a system similar to that which prevails in the Districts under the Principal Assistants might be found suitable. In certain descriptions of cases, they pass orders themselves; in certain cases they pass orders and submit a precis of the case for confirmation; certain cases they are bound to commit. I will return to this subject presently.

20. In para. 10 of his printed letter, Mr. Crawford having represented, that he rarely noticed gratuitously the Monthly Statements of Miscellaneous Cases disposed of by the Rajahs, and that he was not very particular as to their contents, I inquired

"Monthly Statements of Miscellaneous Cases disposed of by them are also still furnished by the Rajahs, but these I rarely notice gratuitously, nor am I very particular as to the contents of the Statement."

whether such was the present practice, and if it was, whether it would not be better to dispense with the Statements, and to have only Statements embracing particular crimes to be enumerated. Mr. Allen says, in answer, that he regards the Monthly Returns of Miscellaneous Cases now furnished by the Rajahs as not to be depended on, and altogether worthless; that it would be quite sufficient for all purposes of control, if the Chiefs forwarded to his office Monthly Statements embracing the twenty heinous crimes specified in Form No. 2 appended to Regulation XX. of 1817. I agree with Mr. Allen. Statements so limited will be prepared with increased care, and they will command greater attention.

21. There appearing to me a discrepancy between Mr. Crawford's para. 11 in which he says,—“I forbear usually from calling for explanation from the Rajahs on the bare allegations of petitioners, unless they furnish security or satisfy me that their complaints are in some respect well grounded;” and para. 8, before quoted, in which he says, that on parties petitioning, explanation was invariably called for, I requested Mr. Allen to inform me what was actually the practice. He explains by saying, that “when a complaint is of a personal nature against a Rajah, when he is charged with a high crime or misdemeanor, it is the practice for the Agent not to proceed till the complainant has given security to attend and prosecute his charge, or till the Agent has been satisfied by a personal examination of the plaintiff or otherwise, that the charge is not groundless.” Mr. Allen considers it necessary that “there should be some restriction of the kind, for if every dissatisfied individual were permitted to appear before the Agent and prefer false and frivolous

"charges, it would be difficult for the Rajahs to maintain their lawful authority and to discharge the duties of their position with efficiency." In all this I entirely agree, and it explains away much that I considered objectionable in the practice. When Mr. Crawford and Mr. Allen say, that on complaint being preferred against any act of a Rajah, explanation is immediately called for as a matter of course, they allude only to acts of the Rajah as Judge or Magistrate in his territory, not to acts of the Rajah in his individual capacity.

22. In para. 56 of his letter, Mr. Crawford represents, that the attendance of prosecutors and witnesses is seldom, or ever, required, and that to cause their attendance would entail on innocent parties a degree of hardship, which would induce concealment of crime. I inquired whether it was usual in cases of murder, in which the sentence might be death, to depend on depositions sent in by the Rajahs. Mr. Allen says, that the usual practice was correctly stated, that he could not find any case during the incumbency of his predecessor, in which the witnesses had been called for and examined by the Agent. Mr. Allen reports, that in all cases in which the Rajahs themselves, or their personal favorites or dependants are not concerned, he thinks that the evidence taken before the Rajahs may be considered trustworthy, but that few of the Rajahs understand how to prepare a case properly, or how to examine a witness in a case of any intricacy; it has therefore been his practice, in all doubtful or suspicious cases to send for and examine the witnesses himself, or, if a case comes from the furthest South-western states, he orders the Principal Assistant at Sumbhulpore to examine the witnesses; that a case was then under examination before the Principal Assistant at Sumbhulpore, which could not with propriety have been entrusted to a Native Chief.

23. Hitherto the sentences passed on the perpetrators of the most heinous crimes in this Agency have, generally speaking, been exceedingly lenient, but under the orders of the Most Noble the Governor lately promulgated, henceforth murder is to be punished with death. I do not think it would be safe in any such case to depend entirely on depositions taken by one of these Jungle Chiefs. It is true, as represented by Mr. Crawford, that if reporting a crime is always to be followed by a long journey to the Sudder Station, crime will be concealed, in order to avoid the inconvenience and hardship, and Mr. Allen also thinks, "that it would be highly inexpedient to require the attendance of prosecutors and witnesses before the Agent in all cases sent up for his final judgment: that it

"would be felt as a great hardship throughout the Political Estates, and the result would, he believes, be extensive concealment of crime." The system introduced by Mr. Allen appears judicious. I think, in every case of wilful murder, where the sentence must, on conviction, be death, some of the witnesses at least should be examined by an Officer, European or Native, in the employ of the Government. I would trust to the discretion of the Agent to select the witnesses to be examined by himself, or an Officer delegated by him, with the proviso that the evidence of such witnesses, irrespective of the evidence taken by the Rajah, must suffice to produce conviction of guilt. The accused should always be questioned by, and his deposition be committed to writing before, the Agent or his Assistant. Mr. Allen admits that he does not think the evidence taken before a Rajah in which he or his favorites or dependants might be concerned, would be trustworthy. It is quite impossible, that the Agent should, on each occasion, be able to discover, whether the favorites and dependants of a Rajah are concerned in a case or not, and therefore impossible always to trust the depositions.

24. Mr. Allen would have it left entirely to the discretion of the Agent to summon witnesses, or not, according to circumstances, as in some cases it is perfectly safe to proceed without them. He "has had more than one case in which the prisoners have confessed their crimes so circumstantially and so truthfully, as to make it quite unnecessary to call for witnesses," but Mr. Crawford never having seen the witnesses in any one case disposed of during his incumbency, shows, I think, that it would be better to rule, that in cases of wilful murder, the witnesses should be examined as I have proposed.

25. I do not see why the same extent of authority should be entrusted to all the Rajahs. It appears to me, that it might be in many respects advantageous to give to some Rajahs greater powers than are exercised by others. I would have the granting of extended powers regarded as a token of trust and confidence and as conferring credit and honor on the Rajah to whom they were entrusted.

26. It appears that at present it is not accurately defined, what cases the Rajahs are to dispose of, and what cases they are to report. They are considered competent to record a judgment in every case which may occur within their estates, but all their orders are open to the revision of the Agent, and no order is held to be final till it has been before him.

27. The Agent very rarely interferes with orders in misdemeanors and miscellaneous cases, unless an appeal is preferred, or mistake is apparent, on the face of the Rajah's proceedings. Cases of burglary, theft, and affray are always scrutinized by the Agent or his Assistant. When the Rajah's sentence is for a period exceeding two years, the defendant is always sent with the record to the Agent, who hears the case in regular form, taking the defence of the prisoner *de novo*. If further inquiry is required, it is made, and if the attendance of witnesses be thought necessary, they are summoned. When the proceedings are complete, the Agent passes his final order, confirming, modifying, or annulling the sentence of the Rajah. I would introduce classes corresponding with the powers of Regulation IX. of 1807, the powers of Regulation III. of 1821, the full powers of a Magistrate, and the powers of a Sessions Judge. The least trustworthy should report their proceedings for confirmation when they sentenced a party to above one month's imprisonment; the second class should report their proceedings for confirmation when they sentenced to above one year's imprisonment; the third class should only report when they sentenced to above three years; and the fourth class should report when they sentenced to above seven years' imprisonment and all cases of murder.

28. Mr. Allen says, that "the Rajah's passing sentence sometimes, " gives rise to difference of opinion as to the measure of punishment " to be awarded," but as the Agent can always pass such sentence as he thinks fit, the difference of opinion cannot injure his authority, while passing sentence increases the responsibility and the consequence of the Rajahs, and makes them more careful.

29. In reporting on Cuttack, I recommended the appointment of a Native Assistant to the Superintendent of the Tributary Mehals. I strongly recommend the appointment of such an Officer in this Agency. Besides the usual duties of an Assistant, I would, whenever necessary, send him into certain estates to hold trials; by so doing relieving the Governor General's Agent, relieving the prosecutors and witnesses, procuring a record on which orders might be confidently passed, and affording much instruction to the Rajah, and his subjects. The trials conducted by the Assistant so deputed should always, when practicable, be disposed of with the assistance of a jury.

30. In reporting on Sumbhulpore, I have proposed the transfer of that estate, and the Gurhjat Estates in the neighbourhood, to Cuttack,

should no good reason against the transfer be brought forward by the inhabitants. This will afford much relief to the Agent, and enable him to give time and attention to a revision of the Police of Purulia and Hazareebaugh, which urgently requires reform.

31. The Government, in the Orders dated the 8th January 1853, said, that they were prepared to consider a well-devised scheme for the instruction of the people. Nothing appears to have been done in furtherance of these orders. At present I think the establishment of Government Schools any where in these Mehals would be of little use, but I would direct the Agent to inquire for indigenous Village Schools, and wherever a flourishing School, with twenty-five boys was found, I would distribute gratuitously the Hindee books used in the Schools of Behar and the Western Provinces.

32. All the English establishments in this Agency are inefficient. The Deputy Commissioner represents, that a second English Writer is urgently required for his Office, it being beyond the physical capacity of any one man to do the work. I have no doubt of the correctness of Major Hannyngton's representation. He has not a Dufteree. I recommend that a second Writer on Rupees 20 and a Dufteree on Rupees 6 be appointed to his Office.

33. I strongly recommend, that the Officer doing duty with the Battalion, should always be an Assistant in the Office of the Principal Assistant of the Lohardugga Division stationed at Rainchee, and also in the Office of the Governor General's Agent, in order that he may qualify himself to take charge of any Office in the Division on an emergency.

34. In my Report on Chyebassa, after representing, that in thirteen years twenty-two changes had taken place in the head of the Office, I recommended, that if Covenanted Officers cannot be induced to remain there for longer periods, Uncovenanted Agency should be resorted to; I do not think there is any force in the objection made. I have heard that an Uncovenanted Officer would not command the respect of the wild Chiefs in communication with the Office. This would depend entirely on his personal character, and the support he received from the Governor General's Agent. An Officer of character, suited to the duties of the Office, supported, as he certainly would be, by Mr. Allen, would encounter no difficulties; but there is force in the objection, that a person without the command of the detachment, and unable to handle a company of Sepoys, would, in case

of a disturbance, be much weaker than an Officer, who having, in his own person, the authority of Magistrate and Commanding Officer, could at once act without reference to other authority. The difficulty might be got over by appointing an Officer acquainted with the management of troops, and giving him a local commission.

DAK.

35. The public Officers at Chyebassa and Purulia are much dissatisfied with the present postal arrangements, under which there is great delay in the arrival of the Calcutta dāk at their Stations. The arrangement was introduced by Mr. Crawford in January 1853, the object was to shorten the time occupied by the dāk between Calcutta and Rainchee, Chota Nagpore.

36. Previous to that date, the Calcutta dāk to Purulia went direct from Bancoorah to Purulia, and from Purulia to Rainchee; now the Calcutta dāk is carried viâ Govindpore to Golah, and there waits for the next dāk from Rainchee, when it is taken up and carried with the Rainchee letters to Purulia.

37. The Calcutta dāk to Chyebassa, which Station is 110 miles directly West from Midnapore, is carried viâ Govindpore and Golah to Rainchee, and despatched thence to Chyebassa with the Rainchee letters. If taken from Purulia to Chyebassa, there will be a saving in time of two days.

38. I consulted the Governor General's Agent, and he concurs with me in opinion, that it would be a great improvement to take the Calcutta dāk to Purulia and Chyebassa through Bancoorah. The Chyebassa bag would then go direct from Purulia to Chyebassa. The runners on the route from Chota Nagpore to Chyebassa would be no longer wanted; the bag from Chota Nagpore to Chyebassa would be brought to Purulia, and go from thence to Chyebassa with the Calcutta Mail.

39. The Governor General's Agent represents, that a considerable traffic exists between Purulia and Bancoorah, chiefly in shell-lac, brass utensils, tussur, &c.; that there is rather an extensive private correspondence between the two places, and that a direct postal communication between them, as recommended, would be advantageous. Captain G. Oakes, the Principal Assistant of Purulia, shows, that since the dāk was taken off this route, the Purulia postage has fallen off from an average of Rupees 66-9-0 to an average of Rupees 50-3-0.

40. The postal arrangements between Chota Nagpore and Sumbhulpore, are on a very inefficient footing. The distance is 190 miles, divided into twenty stages, and the time occupied is six days, the rate being between one and two miles per hour. The pay allowed for each runner is only Rupees 2 per mensem. The establishment entertained will not suffice for more than one runner. They are afraid to pass the forests alone at night from fear of the numerous wild beasts which frequent them, consequently the packets often reach Sumbhulpore two and three together. If two runners are allowed for each despatch, they will travel at night, though in parts the wild buffaloes and tigers are so numerous, it is a service of much danger. The authorities recommend that four runners should be allowed at each stage, at Rupees 3 per mensem each, the expense will be Rupees 212 per mensem, instead of Rupees 112-8-0 at present allowed.

41. I have elsewhere proposed, that Sumbhulpore and the neighbouring Gurhjat Mehals should be transferred to Cuttack. Should that recommendation meet with approval, direct postal communication between Sumbhulpore and Chota Nagpore will be no longer necessary.

42. An Assistant being now stationed at Kornda, it is necessary that postal communication should be established between that place and Rainchee. There is a Zemindarry dāk as far as Lohardugga, but no communication between that place and Kornda, a distance of 54 miles.

43. The distance should be divided into six stages, and four runners should be stationed at each of the four intermediate stages, for in that part of the country, people will not move at night alone. Two at Kornda and two at Lohardugga will suffice. The authorities say, that runners can be procured at Rupees 2-8 per month, but they strongly recommend that Rupees 3 be allowed, for the lower sum will procure the services of only the very worst of the labouring population. The expense will be Rupees 60 per mensem. The Principal Assistant recommends that an Overseer should be appointed on Rupees 6, but at present the necessity of incurring this expense is not shown.

44. The Dāk Moonshee at Baghoda complained that he was entirely alone at the Chowkee, that he had more than once applied for a peon to help him without success, and that it was unfair to expect him to do that which ought to be done by a peon. What is the usual establishment at a place like Baghoda, I do not know. I cannot suppose that there is a very great deal of business at Baghoda. When once a person

is called *Moonshee*, he considers it beneath him to do any manual labor. A *Moonshee* may not occupy his hands, except to write. Possibly at places like this, if a *peadah* cannot be allowed, it would be well to call the Officer, the *Chuprassee*, and give him a badge and the *Moonshee's* allowance.

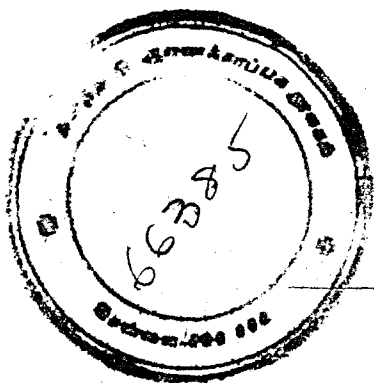
45. The Principal Assistants have carried into effect the orders respecting the Zemindary Dâk. In Hazareebaugh, in 1853, the covers received were 139, the covers despatched 343. The Jungle Districts will in all probability, be the last in which there will be any great increase in the Mofussil correspondence. Those whose language has no written characters by which their thoughts can be expressed, will not for some time learn to value the advantages of correspondence.

46. In Chota Nagpore the number of covers conveyed to the Thanahs in 1853 was 105, and received 117.

47. In Purulia there were 428 covers conveyed to the Mofussil Thanahs and 15 received from them.

* * * * *

(Signed) HENRY RICKETTS.



V22:81
m55